

STATUS AND PROBLEMS OF THE IDCS

This document reports on the performance of the International Data Collection System (IDCS).

CGMS Members are invited to take note.

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1 INTRODUCTION

This document presents a status report on the performance of the International Data Collection System (IDCS).

2 STATUS OF IDCS

As of the beginning of September 2003, there were 377 International DCP (IDCP) registered worldwide for use with the IDCS, using 19 of the 33 available channels (see below). This is 23 more, when compared to one year ago. Of the remaining, 32 are Aeronet DCP operating on channels I23-I24, 20 are operated by ROSHYDROMET on I25, and 174 are "Regional" DCP belonging to WMO agro-meteorological and hydro-meteorological networks and operating over channels I27-I33.

Globally, the total number of IDCP allocated on individual IDCS channels is:

Channel	06	07	10	12	13	14	15	16	18	20	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
No.	17	27	10	18	6	9	9	34	9	12	16	16	20	0	45	22	12	31	31	14	19

During August 2003, EUMETSAT processed around 9,583 messages from 139 IDCP transmitting on channels I6 – I20 (in the Meteosat field of view). In addition, there were 26,131 Aeronet messages and 7,155 WMO network messages.

It will be recalled that channels I23-I24 (Aeronet), I27-I33 (WMO networks) and I25-I26 (Planeta/ROSHYDROMET) are being used within the Meteosat IDCS, on a temporary basis, with the special agreement of CGMS, until such time that all these DCPs can be transferred to the MSG Data Collection and Retransmission Services provided by MSG-2 (currently not expected till after launch of this satellite in 2005).

It will be recalled that following the failure of an SSPA on board MSG-1, it is currently not possible to operate the direct broadcast services, nor the DCP mission. EUMETSAT plans a test of DCP data acquisition via MSG-1 in November 2003. Depending upon the outcome of this test, a decision will be taken on whether to acquire DCP messages via MSG-1 (thus making use of the greatly increased Regional DCP channel capacity) and rebroadcast them via EUMETCast (see also EUM-WP-02 for details of EUMETCast).

3 INTERFERENCE TO THE IDCS

Because activities associated with MSG-1 commissioning, there is currently only partial monitoring of the IDCS channels by EUMETSAT, however, during the last twelve months the levels of interference affecting users of IDCS channels within the Meteosat telecommunications field of view has been relatively low, with only occasional interference detected on channel I12.

4 CONSOLIDATED LIST OF IDCS ALLOCATIONS

Once again, there have only been a few new allocations of DCP within the on-line listing of IDCS allocations (www.eumetsat.de/idcs/) during the last year. At the present time the following Members have read/write access: EUMETSAT, Japan and USA. WMO has read-only access for system monitoring purposes. CGMS Members may access this database at any time and the CGMS Secretariat (EUMETSAT) is responsible for keeping the global database up-to-date.

5 CONCLUSION

CGMS Members are invited to take note of the status and performance of the IDCS.