



CGMS-35 EUM-WP-17  
v1, 17 October 2007

Prepared by EUMETSAT  
Agenda Item: I/4  
Discussed in WGI

## STATUS OF THE IDCS

This document reports on the performance of the IDCS over the last year, highlighting in particular, the growth of the system in support of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System, and identifies issues which need to be addressed in the coming year.

CMGS Members are invited to take note and comment accordingly.

## Status of the IDCS

### 1 INTRODUCTION

As of the beginning of October 2007, there were 62 International DCP (IDCP) registered worldwide for normal use of the IDCS, using only 7 of the 33 channels available. In addition, the following DCP programmes use further International channels for regional purposes:

- 60 DCP allocated on channels I23 and 24, operated by the Aeronet programme.
- 20 DCP allocated on channels I25 and I26, operated by ROSHYDROMET.
- 173 DCP allocated on channels I27-I33, operated by WMO agro-meteorological and hydro-meteorological networks.
- 41 DCP allocated on channels I08, I09, I11, I17, I19 and I21 supporting IOTWS.

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

channel	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
No.						1		10	19		10	11	4	5	2	29	9

channel	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
No.		2	10			30	30	20		44	32	10	28	31	14	14
					CMA	Aeronet	Russia	WMO								

Green – regular IDCS,      dark blue – IOTWS,      CMA – reserved for China

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.

Following the termination of direct broadcast service from Meteosat-7, there is no longer any DCPRS service and all DCP messages are relayed via EUMETCast and the GTS. Meteosat-9 (MSG-2) is fully operational in supporting both the IDCS and the Meteosat DCS.

### 2 INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI WARNING SERVICE (IOTWS)

In response to the Asian Tsunami in December 26<sup>th</sup> 2004, EUMETSAT activated the DCP transponder on Meteosat-5 in March 2005, and replaced by Meteosat-6 in April 2007. Several tidal gauges operated by the PTWC (Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre) were reallocated to I08, I09, I11, I17, I19 and I21 with the agreement of CGMS, transmitting every 15 minutes via Meteosat-6. The DCP messages are relayed as

bulletins to the GTS via the Fucino ground station and EUMETSAT control centre in Darmstadt.

There are currently 41 DCPs assigned to the IOTWS via Meteosat-6. In addition 2 regional channels on MSG-2 (Meteosat-9) are supporting 17 IOTWS DCPs.

### **3 FUTURE OF THE IDCS**

The following issues remain concerning the future use IDCS:

Currently there are 33 DCP channels allocated for IDCS use. Many are now used for regional purposes by EUM, NOAA and possibly JMA. There are far fewer truly mobile DCPs using more than one satellite on the international channels.

A discussion is required about the long term plans for the channels. We need to find out:

- How many active Programmes are using IDCS for truly international applications?
- Are there any plans for future use of the IDCS for international applications
- Bearing in mind that DCPs (especially NOAA) will gradually move to HBR and with narrower spacing - 1.5kHz, should the IDCS specification be re-evaluated, bearing in mind plans for NPOESS and MTG?
- What are the spacecraft contingency plans for DCPs and IDCS in particular - is it consistent with other spacecraft contingency plans (NPOESS, MTG)?
- Several IDCS Channels are not being used according to specification, e.g. many allocated DCP belonging to major networks are no longer transmitting, although they are still allocated.
- EUMETSAT now intends to implement tougher "channel policing", as agreed by CGMS in recent years.

Another forum for discussing these questions should be sought, for example to coincide with a planned EUMETSAT visit to NOAA in spring 2008 for IJPS, provided the NOAA IDCS person responsible is identified, and JMA should also be included in these discussions, as also responsible for IDCS Coordination issues.

### **4 INTERFERENCE TO THE IDCS**

During the last twelve months the level of interference affecting IDCS channels within the Meteosat telecommunications field of view has not been sufficient to affect system performance.

### **5 CONCLUSION**

CGMS is invited to take note and comment accordingly.