



CGMS-35, NOAA-WP-10
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Agenda Item: F.4
Discussed in Plenary

NOAA SUPPORT FOR THE CGMS VIRTUAL LABORATORY FOCUS GROUP (SESSION II)

In response to CGMS Action 33.07

NOAA-WP-10 provides the HPTE Lecture & Weather Briefing summary table for the October & November 2006 event. The Focus Group of the Americas will be participating in several events - including a Weather Briefing between the Americas and Portugal, where they will be hosting a workshop.

The NOAA registrations for the HPTE lectures began in late September. NOAA used its Weather Briefings from September 25 and 26 to review the HPTE lecture process. NOAA thanked a team effort by Costa Rica, Brazil, COMET, CIRA and EUMETSAT, Three of the lectures will be done in Spanish by October. Brazil (our next CoE) will translate all lectures into Portuguese and these will be given in November.

NOAA Support for the CGMS Virtual Laboratory Focus Group (Session II)

1 INTRODUCTION

NOAA provided the High Profile Training Event (HPTE) Lecture & Weather Briefing summary table for the October & November 2006 event.

The Focus Group of the Americas participated in several events - including a Weather Briefing between the Americas and Portugal, where they hosted a workshop.

The NOAA registrations for the HPTE lectures began in late September. NOAA used its Weather Briefings from September 25 and 26 to review the HPTE lecture process.

Thanks to a team effort by Costa Rica, Brazil, the Cooperative Program for Meteorological Education and Training (COMET), CIRA and EUMETSAT, the four core lectures were translated into Spanish by October 2006. Brazil (new WMO CoE) translated all lectures into Portuguese and these were delivered to 5 Portuguese speaking countries in November 2006.

2 MAIN TEXT

At the ET-SUP meeting at WMO in Geneva in September 2006, Jeff Wilson, Tony Mostek, Hans Peter Roesili, Vilma Castro, Luis Machado, Volker Gaetner, and Xiaoxiang Zhu met to discuss and coordinate the running of HPTE in a very short timeframe. They came up with a coordinated list of which centres are taking/providing lectures and the locations. Each Satellite/Centre of Excellence partnership agreed to take on the responsibility of providing the individuals who have registered for the HPTE with the lectures prior to the HPTE. For persons taking lectures from Melbourne, they use the CDs for lectures A, B and D provided at the ET-SUP meeting.

Listed below is the HPTE Lecture & Weather Briefing summary table for the October & November 2006 event.



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HPTE Lectures Summary
October 2006

	Lect A	Lect B	Lect C	Lect D	Lect A rpt	Lect B rpt	Lect C rpt	Lect D rpt	Weath Brief
Mlbrn	Mlbrn	Mlbrn	JMA	Mlbrn	Mlbrn	Mlbrn	JMA	Mlbrn	
JMA			JMA				JMA		
Njn	Mlbrn	Mlbrn	JMA	Mlbrn	Mlbrn	Mlbrn	JMA	Mlbrn	
Oman	Mlbrn	Mlbrn	EUMET	Local					
Pret					Local	Pret	EUMET	Mlbrn	
Nair					Local Self	Pret	Pret	Mlbrn	
Niam			EUMET	Oman					
EUMET			EUMET						
CostaR	Mlbrn	Brazil/SP			USA		EUMET/SP	CostaR/SP	CostaR USA/Sp
Barb/USA	Mlbrn			Barb	USA		EUMET/SP	CostaR/SP	CostaR USA/Sp
Brazil	Brazil/PG	Portug/PG	Brazil/PG	Brazil/PG			EUMET/SP	CostaR/SP	CostaR USA/Sp
Portugal	Mlbrn		EUMET	Oman					CostaR USA/Sp

SP = Spanish; PG = Portuguese

2.1 As discussed in the Introduction, 2006 was a very busy time for NOAA and the Centres of Excellence at Costa Rica, Barbados and Brazil. The ongoing monthly VISITview weather briefings of the Focus Group of the Americas and Caribbean continued. The running of the High Profile Training Event (HPTE) in October was a major successful task. The HPTE was especially noteworthy with the late entry of the CoE in Brazil and the continuation of HPTE in Portuguese in November. In comparison 2007 and 2008 continue to be active for Regions III and IV, and will build upon the positive outcomes from the HPTE and Focus Group.

2.2 The COMET and Virtual Institute for Satellite Integration Training (VISIT) programs are supported and funded by NOAA. COMET and VISIT continue to develop a wide array of satellite related training materials. These materials are available online at no cost to all users in all Regions with Internet access.

The primary access to COMET satellite training is via the METED site (www.meted.ucar.edu/topics_satellite.php). The METED site is now available in Spanish (www.meted.ucar.edu/index_es.htm). METED satellite site includes 36 online modules plus 3 modules on CDs (Note 3 modules are available in Spanish and 5 in French).

2.3 COMET began work on the Environmental Satellite Resource Center (ESRC). The ESRC website will provide a comprehensive set of links with information on satellite instruments, data, products and training that will be a valuable resource to the WMO VL Resource Library.

2.4 NOAA's VISIT program provides a wide array of satellite related training materials. The VISIT satellite training website is located at: (http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visit/topic_sat.html). VISIT satellite site contains 40 sessions with most including recorded audio playback (the VISITview TV option).

2.5 The VISIT team with help from COMET and WMO developed a Website in English and Spanish to support the WMO HPTE event conducted in October and November 2006 (<http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/training/wmovl/>). The VISIT HPTE site will be updated to support the GEOSS of Americas HPTE training scheduled for Spring/Summer 2008.

2.6 A collection of satellite training resources was produced by COMET in support of NOAA's *Global Earth Observation System of Systems* (GEOSS) Americas partnership. This site includes select COMET satellite meteorology training modules and links to the VISIT Program and the 2006 WMO High Profile Training Event. This collection is intended as background training material for participants in upcoming WMO- and GEOSS Americas-sponsored satellite meteorology training events and workshops (http://www.meted.ucar.edu/export/GEOSS_WMO_07/).

2.7 CIRA and VISIT in coordination with the NOAA/NWS International Desk supports the monthly briefings of the WMO Focus Group (FG) of the Caribbean and Americas. The weather briefings are done in English and Spanish with a second session led by COE Costa Rica in Spanish. The Barbados COE started the Caribbean FG that conducts a briefing almost every week.

The VISITview server at CIRA used by these Focus Groups is located at:

<http://hadar.cira.colostate.edu/vview/vmrmtrcrso.html>

2.8 In 2006, VISIT team developed a basic course on satellite meteorology called Satellite Hydrology and Meteorology (SHyMet). The SHyMet course is composed of COMET and VISIT training materials. This course is open to anyone with an interest in satellite meteorology and takes about 16 hours to complete. The SHyMet Website is located at CIRA:

<http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/training/shymet/>

2.9 The Centre of Excellence in Brazil (at CPTEC) was formally established after the ET-SUP meeting in September 2006. Since that time, CoE in Brazil has been very active – especially with their support for the HPTE in Portuguese in November 2006. The training activities coordinated with CoE Brazil that are scheduled for South America for 2007-2008 are listed below. Some are defined and confirmed, but others still need additional support from the sponsors.

3 CONCLUSIONS

The NOAA team composed of NESDIS and NWS staff along with its partners (VISIT, CIRA and COMET) was very active in supporting a wide array of satellite training activities as part of the WMO Space Programmes Virtual Laboratory (VL) for Satellite Training. NOAA teamed with the Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in RA III to deliver live weather briefings as part of the WMO Focus Group effort. WMO Space Programme and the Expert Team on Satellite Utilisation and Products (ET-SUP) used the success of the Focus Group of the Americas and Caribbean to plan, prepare and deliver a series of lectures and briefings for the High Profile Training Event (HPTE). The successes of the Focus Group and ET-SUP team lead to the creation of two more CoEs in RA IV (Brazil and Argentina) in 2006. Brazil moved very quickly into the Focus Group and HPTE activities and conducted an extension of HPTE in Portuguese in November 2006. The work of WMO ET-SUP to establish the VL for Satellite, the Focus Group for the Americas and Caribbean and the HPTE, led to the successful expansion of GEOSS for the Americas with the move of GOES-10 over the Atlantic. Many more satellite training activities continue to be planned across Regions III and IV as a collaborative effort between NOAA and its partners, WMO, EUMETSAT, and CoEs (Barbados, Costa Rica, Brazil and Argentina). (See Appendix for Diagram of WMO VL satellite providers and CoEs).

Appendix - Diagram of WMO VL Centres of Excellence and Satellite Providers

