

## WELCOME ADDRESS

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Director of EUMETSAT

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

Following the good tradition of the previous International Winds Workshops I would like to welcome you to the 5<sup>th</sup> International Winds Workshop. This workshop is hosted by the Bureau of Meteorology and organised jointly by the Co-operative Institute for Satellite Studies (CIMSS), EUMETSAT and the Bureau of Meteorology. It is co-sponsored by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Japanese Meteorological Agency (JMA) and the National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service (NESDIS) of NOAA.

The International Winds Workshops take place under the auspices of the Co-ordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) and as EUMETSAT acts as the CGMS secretariat I, as Director of EUMETSAT, take great pleasure in supporting the Workshops. I am pleased about the continuous creative work and success that emerges from the Winds Workshops. This success has been demonstrated through improvements to the derivation of winds from satellites over the last decade and the enhanced positive impact of satellite tracked fields on numerical weather prediction.

The Winds Workshop is a well-established forum for the exchange of ideas amongst the leading specialists in wind derivation from geostationary satellites and the user community, which is well represented through representatives from NWP centres and other institutions. The fruitful co-operation between the users, operational centres producing winds and the science community leads to the overall success. It is clear that the improvements in the wind derivation techniques would not have materialised in an improved impact of satellite winds if users, notably the NWP community, had not made significant efforts to improve the utilisation of the data. It is also noteworthy that since the third and fourth workshops, this forum has been extended to include specialists working on other methods of wind retrieval from satellites. This had been recommended by CGMS and broadens the scope of the discussion while keeping the focus on the original purpose of the workshop, which is winds from the feature tracking in geostationary satellite images.

The previous meetings have included excellent presentations providing fruitful ground for constructive discussions. The feedback of the workshops to the CGMS meetings has been very good too. The presentations at this workshop cover again the important aspects ranging from the extraction of wind fields from satellite imagery data to the utilisation in numerical forecast models. It will be interesting to hear the reports on quality indicators associated with wind vectors which help to improve the use in NWP forecast models. Various new aspects will be discussed in the working groups, amongst them the support to re-analysis efforts (e.g. ERA-40 at ECMWF) through the reprocessing of satellite winds with state-of-the-art algorithms. The interpretation of observed feature motion is still an important science issue, in particular the use of rapid scans is still an area to be further exploited. Here I should like to give credit to Dr. Ted Fujita who passed away in 1998. Ted Fujita was a pioneer of the use and interpretation of satellite inferred atmospheric motion and many of you remember his stimulating contributions to the first and second International Winds Workshops in Washington DC and Tokyo, respectively.

I am sure this meeting will continue the success of previous meetings. Many of you will return home with new ideas and plans. I really do regret that I am not able to attend this workshop myself since I maintain a keen interest in satellite meteorology and science.

I thank the Bureau of Meteorology for hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> International Winds Workshop in this wonderful environment and I convey my gratitude to Dr. John LeMarshall and David Jaspers and their co-workers for the local arrangements. The Bureau of Meteorology has always been a strong player in the arena of satellite wind derivation and utilisation in NWP. Some of the most prominent improvements, for instance the use of high-density winds, have been pioneered by the Bureau of Meteorology. Therefore the choice of Lorne as venue for the 5<sup>th</sup> International Winds Workshop is an excellent one. Thanks are also due to Chris Velden from CIMSS, Ken Holmlund from EUMETSAT, Dr. Don Hinsman from WMO, Dr. M. Tokuno from JMA and Dr. J. LeMarshall from BoM for putting together the workshop program.

I wish you, dear colleagues, a successful and stimulating Workshop and a pleasant time.