

SESSION 1

OPERATIONAL EXTRACTION OF CLOUD MOTION WINDS FROM CURRENT AND FUTURE GEOSTATIONARY SATELLITE SYSTEMS

Chairperson: D. B. Miller

This session opened the workshop with a series of talks by the operational providers of cloud motion winds (CMW). J. Schmetz reviewed the science and procedures for the winds program of Europe using METEOSAT data including a history of improvements and their efficacy. J. Lynch did the same for the winds derivation from GOES and presented plans for improvements not yet implemented. H. Uchida showed the improvements realized in the winds derived from GMS data when they implemented an improved height algorithm. U. V. Rao presented the status and plans for the derivation of winds from the INSAT system. He emphasized the local application of the data. A. Karpov presented the status and plans for the GOMS spacecraft and promised the derivation of CMW for transmission on the GTS as soon as the system is operational.

N. Arai from Brazil, regrettably, was unable to attend. I hope he is able to send a paper for the proceedings. A. Thomassell from NESDIS presented his comparison of METEOSAT and GOES CMW. He concluded that there is evidence that both operators tend to place their winds at 200hPa where they would best "fit" at 250hPa. D. Hinsman presented the WMO view of the winds derivation effort from the global perspective of the World Weather Watch and Global Observing system. He also reviewed WMO efforts to coordinate "requirements" for satellite data. His challenge to the operational providers of CMW was to consider "standardization" where possible, and to look to the WMO to assist in coordination of procedures and formats.

My conclusions:

1. The objectives of the Workshop were met in an outstanding way.
2. The interchange of current science and technology is essential to the improvement and "harmonization" of the derivation of CMW.
3. Each operator and representatives of the user communities presented the merits and demerits of all the methods used to currently derive operational CMW.

My recommendations:

1. Consolidate or summarize the recommendations and conclusions of the Workshop in a letter from John Morgan to heads of the agencies of all the operational producers. This will help assure continued progress and improvement of operational procedures.
2. A small working group of satellite operational producers should meet and agree on common procedures where practical and possible (e.g. agree on one method of assigning heights if only one IR channel is available, if IR/VIS are used and if IR/VIS/WV are used, the analysis "guess" procedures to be used, a common means of verification, etc.).
3. A planning meeting and/or working group meetings be planned in conjunction with the COSPAR meetings of next year.
4. Another Workshop be planned for 1993 by the same sponsors.

Donald B. Miller, Chairperson of Session 1
NOAA/NESDIS