

Operations Plan of the Day

Thursday, 2 August 2007, 0830 UTC

General Remarks:

The COPS region is located under a southwesterly flow. A shortwave trough embedded within this flow is expected to pass the COPS region around 12 UTC today. It is associated with a poorly-defined cold front. South of a surface low over Belgium a strong wind from the southwest is expected in the lower troposphere (about 15-20 m/s at 850 hPa). The remnants of an MCS that developed over France on Wednesday evening have moved to the northeast of the COPS area. In its wake, some sunshine is possible that may help to create some new instability. A surface trough that moves eastward over North-central France would then likely be the focal point of the convective activity. A problem that may prevent the formation of well-developed storms is the low-level cloud cover that is currently observed and the lack of insolation preventing a fair amount of instability to form.

In the early hours of **Friday**, another shortwave trough will cross the COPS area from the northwest. A lack of potential instability will however prevent more than weak embedded convective activity to form. Rather high cloud cover should remain over the COPS area during Friday. Ridging will likely create sufficient subsidence during the afternoon for larger breaks to form. Skies will clear towards the evening and little cloudiness is expected on **Saturday** and **Sunday**.

Renewed warm air advection from the southwest should commence on **Sunday**, which is forecast to be a warm and sunny day.

Consensus exists among the numerical models about a new trough reaching the COPS area on Tuesday. Convective activity is forecast to affect the COPS region in the night of **Monday** to **Tuesday**.

Operations summary:

# Day X (Thursday):	IOP 13b
# Day X+1 (Friday):	no IOP
# Day X+2 (Saturday):	Down Day
# Day X+3 (Sunday):	no IOP
# Day X+4 (Monday):	IOP possible

Mission Plans:

Day X, Thursday, August 02: IOP 13b

Specifications of vertical soundings:

- # IMK-FZK: 05, 08, 11, 14, 17, 20 UTC
- # IMK-Burnhaupt: 05, 08, 11, 14, 17, 20 UTC
- # EUCOS-MeteoSwiss: 05, 17 UTC (Payerne; launching time)
- # EUCOS-DWD: 05, 17 UTC (Meiningen, M, S; launching time)
- # Hornisgrinde (H): 23 (X-1), 02, 05, 08, 11, 14, 17 UTC (RS 92)
- # Achern (R): 23 (X-1), 02, 05, 08, 11, 14, 17, 20 UTC (RS 92)
- # Deckenpfronn (S): no operation possible
- # IMK Dropusondes: 3 teams with at least 4 sondes each

Lidar systems:

- # Operation period 0500 – 1800 UTC; Scan scenario ScaS1.

Radar Systems:

Operations to start 00UTC and continue through the night to Friday

Doppler-on-Wheels: Coordinated operations with two DOWs in the western and eastern side of the COPS region; DNW5 (Neuried) and DNE8 (Oberifflingen)

Day X+1, Friday, August 03: no IOP

Vertical soundings and radar; no lidar or aircraft operation planned.

Specifications of vertical soundings:

- # EUCOS-MeteoSwiss: 05, 17 UTC (Payerne; launching time)
- # EUCOS-DWD: 05, 17 UTC (Meiningen, M, S; launching time)

Radar systems:

Radar observations should continue until precipitation ceases (probably around 06 UTC)

Day X+2, Saturday, August 04: Down Day

Day X+3, Sunday, August 05: no IOP

Day X+4, Monday, August 06: IOP possible

Your COPS Operations Center Team

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