

Operations Plan of the Day

Wednesday, 15 August 2007, 0830 UTC

General Remarks:

**BAe 146 is back for the next 3 days.
Supporting ground based measurements are requested.**

Synoptic Situation

Main feature on the upper-air analyses this morning is the intense long-wave trough over western Europe which will slowly move eastwards during the next few days. On Wednesday, the COPS domain will be located in the warm-advection regime east of this trough, with the associated cold front expected to cross the Rhine valley around 00 UTC on Thursday. The northern segments of the cold front will continue its eastward track on Thursday and Friday, while its southern portions will get caught by the Alps, so that it should curve northeastwards from the Alps into the Baltic States by Friday afternoon. The COPS domain will thus remain in comparatively shallow, modified polar air.

Wednesday will become increasingly interesting towards the evening. Scattered thunderstorms are expected to initiate around 18 UTC, which may become quite severe given strong shear profiles. Even a brief tornado or two cannot be excluded with this activity. However, the main severe weather threats should be isolated severe wind gusts and large hail. Further thunderstorms should move into the COPS region later in the evening and during the night, with a persisting threat for severe convective weather.

On **Thursday**, the skies should remain overcast with persistent and partly intense rain, which should gradually weaken in the late afternoon/evening.

On **Friday**, showers and isolated/weak thunderstorms should develop towards midday, and diminish after sunset.

Little chance of precipitating convection on **Saturday**.

On **Sunday** scattered, diurnally-driven showers and thunderstorms are expected.

Operations summary:

# Day X (Wednesday):	IOP 16 (starting 10 UTC + BAe support)
# Day X+1 (Thursday)	IOP 16 (prolongation until 10 UTC + BAe support)
# Day X+2 (Friday)	IOP planned
# Day X+3 (Saturday)	Down Day
# Day X+4 (Sunday)	Down Day

Mission Plans:

Day X, Wednesday, August 15: IOP 16

A frontal system with prefrontal convection reaches the COPS area late on Wednesday. There IOP 16 will last from noon to noon.

Aircraft:

FAAM BAe146: 1130 UTC take off; areas A and B activated from 1200 to 1500 UTC.

Specifications of vertical soundings:

EUCOS-MeteoSwiss: 05, 17 UTC (Payerne; launching time)

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

Achern (R): 11, 17, 23 UTC (RS 80G), 14, 20, UTC (RS 80H)

Hornisgrinde (H): 0830 UTC (RS 80G)

FZK: 14, 18:30, 23 UTC

Deckenpfronn (S): 2 soundings: morning (05, 08, 11 UTC) and afternoon (14*, 17, 20* UTC)

*Operations Center recommendation

Lidar systems:

10 UTC until rain starts; Scan scenario ScaS2

Radar Systems:

Poldirad: starting at 11 UTC, continuing throughout the whole night until next morning (**if staff permitting**)

Day X+1, Thursday, August 16: continuation of IOP 16

Aircraft:

FAAM BAe146: areas A and B activated from 1200 to 1500 UTC

Specifications of vertical soundings:

EUCOS-MeteoSwiss: 05, 17 UTC (Payerne; launching time)

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

Achern (R): 14, 17 UTC (RS 80G), 1530 UTC (RS 80H)

Hornisgrinde (H): 14, 17 UTC (RS 80G), 1530 UTC (RS 80H)

FZK: 05, 08 UTC
Deckenpfronn (S): 2 soundings: morning (05*, 08, 11* UTC) and afternoon (14, 17, 20 UTC)
*Operations Center recommendation

Additional radiosonde launchings at Achern and Hornisgrinde are requested during BAe 146 flight.

Lidar systems:

ongoing operations until rain starts, Scan scenario ScaS2

Radar Systems:

Poldirad: continuing throughout the night, end time to be decided by Poldirad team in order to assure BAe support in the afternoon.

Poldirad operations for supporting BAe 146 flight: 11-15 UTC

Day X+2, Friday, August 17: IOP planned

Day X+3, Saturday, August 18: Down Day

Day X+4, Sunday, August 19: Down Day

Your COPS Operations Center Team

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