

Operations Plan of the Day

Friday, 17 August 2007, 0730 UTC

General Remarks:

**Special Observation Period (SOP 7) takes place today:
Supporting ground based measurements
during afternoon BAe flight are requested.**

Synoptic Situation

A broad long-wave trough is still present over western Europe. It moves eastwards very slowly during the next few days. Several shortwave troughs rounding this larger trough move eastwards and determine the evolution of the weather until Tuesday. Then, a low will cut-off over central Europe and likely move into the Mediterranean Sea region.

On **Friday**, isolated showers will likely develop over parts of the COPS area ahead and near the axis of an upper-level trough passing the area from the west. The convective clouds will likely reach up to an inversion at 4-5 km altitude where temperatures around -8 C should be low enough to let them produce precipitation. The clouds may locally overshoot that level and become 7-8 km tall. After about 13 UTC shower coverage is expected to diminish from the west as subsidence sets in behind the trough.

On **Saturday**, subsidence should render the atmosphere unsupportive of deep convective activity. Convection will likely be limited to shallow cumulus clouds.

Sunday, another shortwave trough and an associated cold-front should approach the area. It is likely that this results in new shower activity during the late afternoon and evening across the south-eastern half of the COPS domain.

Monday – although numerical models start to diverge significantly here – some new convection is expected within the post-frontal air-mass.

After Monday, the forecast becomes quite uncertain. GFS has a rather prominent ridge of high-pressure building over the area, whereas a rather large low-pressure system over northern Germany is more prominent in the ECMWF and UKMO models. The latter solutions allow for significantly more convective development than the former. The relatively high unpredictability is also reflected in the ECMWF ensemble forecast system.

Operations summary:

# Day X (Friday)	SOP 7: BAe support
# Day X+1 (Saturday)	Down Day
# Day X+2 (Sunday)	Down Day
# Day X+3 (Monday)	no IOP
	Debriefing (IOPs 14, 15, 16) scheduled for Monday, at 1400 local at the Operation Center (only if no BAe support is needed).
# Day X+4 (Tuesday)	IOP possible

Mission Plans:

Day X, Friday, August 17: BAe support planned

Aircraft:

BAe 146: Flight is from 09-14 UTC, boxes A and B activated

Specifications of vertical soundings:

Achern (R): 08, 11, 14 UTC (RS80 G)

Hornisgrinde (H): 08, 11, 14 UTC (RS80 G)

Radar Systems:

Poldirad: operations during BAe 146 flight: 08-16 UTC

IMK-Radar: operations during BAe 146 flight: 08-16 UTC

Lidar systems:

operations during BAe 146 flight: 08-15 UTC, Scan scenario ScaS1

Day X+1, Saturday, August 18: Down Day

Day X+2, Sunday, August 19: Down Day

Day X+3, Monday, August 20: no IOP/Possible BAe support

BAe flight possible, with a similar ground support as today.

Debriefing (IOPs 14, 15, 16) scheduled for Monday, at 1400 local at the Operation Center (only if no BAe support is needed).

Day X+4, Tuesday, August 21: IOP possible

Your COPS Operations Center Team

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