

Operations Plan of the Day

Tuesday, 28 August 2007, 09:00 UTC

General Remarks:

Synoptic Situation

The COPS region is still situated on the southern periphery of a broad long-wave trough over Scandinavia. A cut-off low located to the west of the Iberian Peninsula is moving eastward while evolving into a NE-SW oriented trough. Increasing northward warm-air advection is expected ahead of that system. An inactive zonally-oriented front has stalled near the southern COPS domain border. The front will likely be the focus for stratiform and embedded convective precipitation starting late on Tuesday and continuing into Wednesday and in the southeast into Thursday.

In southern France and the Alps, the increased warm-air advection will likely cause the initiation of scattered storms within the warm air-mass on **Tuesday**. Stratiform and elevated convective precipitation is expected to commence in the range of the frontal zone later in the day and may also affect southern parts of the COPS domain.

The frontal zone is still located over the COPS region on **Wednesday**. Widespread stratiform and elevated convective precipitation is expected over the southern and perhaps central parts of the COPS area. The rain will probably in part occur in concert with meso-scale convective systems that pass to the south of the COPS area. Only the stratiform rain of the MCSs should affect the COPS region.

On **Thursday** the front should finally start to move off to the southeast, but some stratiform rain will likely affect the COPS area.

As a surface ridge builds up and cloudiness moves off to the southeast, quite friendly weather is expected on **Friday** initially before a weak frontal system approaches from the northwest.

Operations summary:

# Day X (Tuesday)	no IOP
# Day X+1 (Wednesday)	SOP 8
# Day X+2 (Thursday)	IOP possible
# Day X+3 (Friday)	no IOP

Mission Plans:

Day X, Tuesday, August 28: no IOP

Arrival of BAe at 6pm LT.

Day X+1, Wednesday, August 29: SOP 8 (cloud microphysics)

Specifications of vertical soundings:

- # EUCOS-MeteoSwiss: 05, 17 UTC (Payerne; launching time)
- # EUCOS-DWD: 05, 17 UTC (Meiningen, M, S; launching time)
- # Achern (R): 08, 11, 14, 17 UTC (RS92)
- # Hornisgrinde (H): 08, 11, 14, 17 UTC (RS92)
- # Deckenpfronn (S): 2 soundings: morning (one time of 05, 08* or 11 UTC) and afternoon (one time of 14, 17*, 20 UTC)

*Operations Center recommendation

Lidar systems:

08 - 18 UTC **weather permitting**, ensuring lidar operation during first radiosonde ascent, **scan scenario ScaS3**

Radar Systems:

Poldirad: standard daytime measurements

UHOH X-band: 08 - 18 UTC

BAe mission:

Mission planned above melting layer in stratiform clouds in the morning or in the afternoon. Overpasses of Supersites for testing of remote sensing microphysics retrievals. If imbedded deep convection is observed in the COPS domain, these cells shall be observed, too. Details of the mission to be announced after the Science Briefing on Wednesday morning.

Day X+2, Thursday, August 30: IOP possible

Day X+3, Friday, August 31: no IOP

Your COPS Operations Center Team

Volker Wulfmeyer
Science Director

Matthias Grzeschik
Operations Director

Christian Barthlott
Operations Supervisor

Pieter Groenemeijer and Christian Ehmann
Forecaster