
MEETING OF THE
Expert Team on WORLD DATA CENTRES
(JMA, Tokyo, Japan, 21-23 January 2014)

Commercial use of GAW data and products – discussion document (submitted by Tony Colavecchia)

1. GAW DATA ACCESS GUIDELINE

Use of data obtained from one of the WMO/GAW World Data Centres is subject to the following statement endorsed by the WMO Executive Council/Committee on Atmospheric Sciences (EC/CAS) Panel of Experts Working Group on Environmental Pollution and Atmospheric Chemistry [WMO, 2001a]:

“For scientific purposes, access to these [GAW] data is unlimited and provided without charge. By their use you accept that an offer of co-authorship will be made through personal contact with the data providers or owners whenever substantial use is made of their data. In all cases, an acknowledgment must be made to the data providers or owners and to the data centre when these data are used within a publication.”

2. WMO INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF DATA AND PRODUCTS

- WMO facilitates the free and unrestricted exchange of data and information, products and services in real- or near-real time on matters relating to safety and security of society, economic welfare and the protection of the environment.
- Resolution 40 (Cg-XII) — WMO policy and practice for the exchange of meteorological and related data and products including guidelines on the relationships in commercial meteorological activities.
- Annex I to Resolution 40 (Cg-XII) - Data and products to be exchanged without charge and with no conditions on use
- Annex II to Resolution 40 (Cg-XII) - Guidelines for relations among National Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services (NMSs) regarding commercial activities
- Annex III to Resolution 40 (Cg-XII) - Guidelines for relations between national meteorological or hydrometeorological services (NMSs) and the commercial sector

2.1. Annex III. Guidelines for relations between national meteorological or hydrometeorological services (NMSs) and the commercial sector

These guidelines apply to the commercial sector engaged in meteorological activities, which includes government organizations engaged in commercial meteorological activities.

In order to enhance the relationship between the two sectors:

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1. In the common interest, the commercial sector is urged to respect the international data exchange principles of the WWW and other WMO Programmes;
2. The commercial sector is urged to recognize and acknowledge the essential contribution of NMSs and of WMO to the activities of the commercial sector. NMSs and the commercial sector are urged to recognize the interdependence and mutual benefit possible from cooperative interaction;
3. In the case where the NMS of a country, particularly of a developing country, were to consider itself affected by the commercial sector's commercial use of data originated in its own country, all parties involved shall undertake negotiations to achieve appropriate and satisfactory agreements;
4. Unless authorized to do so by the relevant Member, commercial sector providers of meteorological services should not publicly issue warnings and forecasts relevant to the safety of life and property in the country or maritime area where they operate. Warnings and forecasts relevant to the safety of life and property publicly issued by the commercial sector should be consistent with those originated by NMSs or by other official originators in the course of the performance of their public service responsibilities;
5. In providing services, the commercial sector should be encouraged to employ meteorological terminology consistent with established national and international practice;
6. Commercial sector providers of meteorological services should respect the sovereignty and rules and regulations of the countries in which they deliver services;
7. NMSs are encouraged to discuss with their countries' meteorological community and professional societies the issues associated with the international activities of the commercial sector;
8. NMSs are encouraged to collaborate with their countries' commercial sector and their professional societies to maximize the use of meteorological information within their country.

2.2. Free and unrestricted

"Free and unrestricted" means non-discriminatory and without charge [Resolution 23 (EC-XLII) — Guidelines on international aspects of provision of basic and special meteorological services]. "Without charge", in the context of this resolution means at no more than the cost of reproduction and delivery, without charge for the data and products themselves.

3. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES DOCUMENTATION

GUIDELINES ON RELATIONSHIPS IN COMMERCIAL METEOROLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

→ <https://www.wmo.int/pages/about/documents/WMO837.pdf>

WMO Resolution 40 Cover Letter

→ <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/im/wmocovr.htm>

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4. EXAMPLES

4.1. WOUDC Commercial Request 1

I work for a not-for-profit organization that develops free, online training, primarily for meteorologists (www.meted.ucar.edu). I am working on a distance learning module about the use of satellites for monitoring atmospheric composition, and I would like to use one of the images from the WOUDC website at http://www.woudc.org/interface/totalozone_02-05.gif or http://www.woudc.org/interface/woudc_tot.gif.

Can you please tell me who I would contact to get formal permission for using one or both images?

Dr. Victoria Johnson, COMET, Boulder, CO USA

4.2. WOUDC Commercial Request 2

I am inquiring about the availability of Ozonesonde Data to commercial users such as Bombardier Aerospace through the WOUDC Website. This interrogation arises from the following citation courtesy of the WOUDC Website:

*The data contained within the WOUDC Data Archive are to be **used for non-profit, scientific and educational purposes only**. The WMO Executive Council/Committee on Atmospheric Sciences (EC/CAS) Panel of Experts Working Group on Environmental Pollution and Atmospheric Chemistry remind users of the data to acknowledge and honour the following statement. Please advise on the possibilities at hand for use of the data in regards with the wording (in bold) presented above.*

Mehregan Dor, Pneumatics and Propulsion, (514) 855-5001 x64385,
Mehregan.Dor@aero.bombardier.com, Bombardier Aerospace | BAN 1 Building

4.3. WOUDC Commercial Request 3

I am in the process of developing these 2 websites (OzoneLevel.com + UVLevel.com) and would be interested in using the Real-Time data (global) for both Ozone + UV Levels. This will be for a "for profit" company. I would like to discuss any licensing arrangement(s) required

Ian Clark iPhone Developer (OzoneLevel.com + UVLevel.com) cell [416-992-7832](tel:416-992-7832), sales@gardenmedia.ca, www.gardenmedia.ca

5. WOUDC DATA POLICY WEB PAGE?

WMO Data Policy

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WMO-GAW Data Use Guideline

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Open Government License - Canada

- <http://data.gc.ca/eng/open-government-licence-canada>

6. SUMMARY

WMO facilitates the free and unrestricted exchange of data and information, products and services.

Guidelines are available to support relationships with commercial activities.

Is there anything else that GAW WDC could do to insure acknowledgement by the data users? Should we use a service like DataCite to assign Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) to manage citations?

Do we need an open data licenses for the WDCs outlining conditions of use? Does Resolution 40 accomplish this?