

CM SAF Newsletter 1

November 2010

The EUMETSAT
Network of
Satellite Application
Facilities



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CM SAF would like to introduce its new newsletter to inform our users about updates of our products, new service messages or documents and a number of other interesting topics. The newsletter will be distributed via email in irregular intervals. The first newsletter is sent out to all our registered users. However, if you do not want to receive our newsletter you can unsubscribe to the newsletter at any time. You can manage your subscription to the newsletter via your user profile settings at the Web User Interface page.

Service Message on AVHRR NOAA 17 Scan motor problems and effect on CM SAF products.

NOAA reported problems with the scan motor of the AVHRR instrument onboard the NOAA17 satellite beginning in January 2010. On 31 March 2010 NOAA declared the AVHRR data of NOAA17 as unusable for the users. (details on the instrument status are found at <http://www.oso.noaa.gov/poesstatus/componentStatusSummary.asp?spacecraft=17&subsystem=4>). Analysis of the CM SAF products including NOAA17 data showed a negative effect of using NOAA17 in the averaging (e.g., stripes in the products). Therefore, NOAA17 has been excluded from the processing of the CM SAF products for all AVHRR cloud and radiation products from April 2010 onwards. This means that from April 2010 onwards input data from only two satellites are used, the prime AM satellite Metop (provided via Eumetcast) and the prime PM satellite NOAA19 (provided via EARS). This reduces the number of overpasses used in the averaging to our end products. COT and CWP are based on Metop data only from April 2010 onwards as the AVHRR instrument on NOAA19 is the only available sensor with a channel 3a/b switch providing the required input data for calculation of the cloud microphysical products. The reduction in number of available satellite overpasses results in a reduction of area coverage for the AVHRR based SIS, SNS and SRB products, which is clearly visible in the daily and monthly mean products, especially in areas south of about 50°N. Users should consider to use the SEVIRI based or merged (SEVIRI+AVHRR) products in these areas. The reduced coverage is due to the type of averaging and required minimum number of available valid values to generate the averaged value. Details on the averaging of the surface radiation products are given in the Product User Manual Surface Radiation Products. The different cloud products do not show a reduced spatial coverage. However, they are obviously based on a reduced number of input data as well. The different spatial coverage between the above mentioned surface radiation products and the cloud products is explained by a different approach in the averaging of the data. Details can be found in the Product User manual Clouds.

CM SAF User Workshop 2010 in Rostock

The 3rd CM SAF User Workshop with more than 100 participants took place in Rostock from 6-8 September 2010. The oral presentations, posters and a list of participants of the workshop are available via our webpage www.cmsaf.eu .

1st Operations Report 2010

The 1st Operations Report 2010 covering the reporting period January to June 2010 is available to our users via our webpage. The purpose of the operations report is to provide a summary of operational activities within the reporting period and to outline the operations activities. Furthermore, it gives a summary of User Help Desk (UHD) activities. All Operations Reports back to the beginning of the Initial Operations Phase of CM SAF (which started in 2004) can be accessed via our web page. You can find the reports on www.cmsaf.eu following the link to Publication & Documentation, CM SAF Documentation, Operations Report.

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