



VAACs “Best Practice”

Benefits to daily Operations

The VAAC Buenos Aires’ experience

by Miriam Andrioli

“WMO 7th International Volcanic Ash Workshop: Science into Operations, Now and Into the Future”. Anchorage, Alaska.
October 19-23, 2015

Best Practices' related achievements 2010-2015

Operational aspect

- ✓ Improved VAAC Buenos Aires website
- ✓ VAG transmission to WIFS (WAFS Internet File Service – NOAA) (2013)
- ✓ New International Volcano Database ID numbers for VAACs (as of October 1st, 2013; IAVWOPSG Conclusion 7/30)
- ✓ VAG T+24 (as of July 1st, 2014)

VAAC exercises

- Annual SIGMET WV tests (last one on Dec. 2014)
- Southern Hemisphere Ash Propagation Exercise (SHAPE) (2014)
VAAC Toulouse - VAAC Buenos Aires
- ✓ **Improved hand-over procedures and CDAF** (Guide for “Collaborative Decision Analysis and Forecasting (CDAF)”- ICAO 9766 Manual).



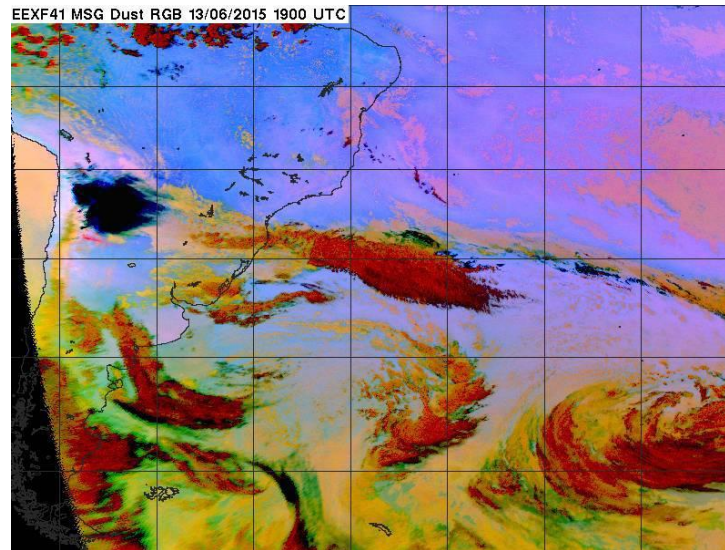
Best Practices' related achievements 2010-2015

- ✓ **Improved VAAC best practice documentation**
 - Operations Manual
 - Competency assessment of VAAC BA personnel, in progress
 - QMS ISO 9001-2008, in progress



✓ Inter-VAAC collaboration

- On June 13th, 2015, **VAAC London** detected a curious VA event in the vicinity of Nevados Ojos del Salado volcano (6,879 m-Chile/Argentina Northern Andes range border) and immediately reported it to **VAAC Buenos Aires**.



- The existent MET pattern and the extremely low probabilities of a volcanic eruption in the area, had led VAAC Buenos Aires to label the situation as a **purely meteorological event, dismissing any VA presence**.



✓ Inter-VAAC collaboration

- But the **substantial information** provided by VAAC London triggered a full thorough **research/verification process** involving scientists from...

... **5 (five)** Institutions from Argentina and Spain !!!

Servicio de Hidrografía Naval (SHN), Argentina

CONICET-DF/FCEyN-UBA, Argentina

INENCO-GEONORTE – UNSa-CONICET, Argentina

Servicio Meteorológico Nacional (SMN), Argentina

Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC), Spain



Best Practices' related achievements 2010-2015

Inter-VAAC collaboration

- The intriguing VA episode was unveiled achieving **surprising results**:

The discovering of VA re-suspended processes originated in ancient/hidden VA deposits in the Andes range, NW of Argentina...

- ✓ **an unexpected threaten to aviation was successfully identified in our AoR ,**
- ✓ **being now under VAAC Buenos Aires' daily surveillance.**

Full details on Wed Oct 21st, 10:50-11:10: Satellite images uncertainty: eruption or re-suspension?
The importance of the multidisciplinary approach. The case of June 13th, 2015 Ojos del Salado false volcanic eruption.

by Estella Collini, SHN, SMN VAAC Buenos Aires, Argentina



Inter-VAAC collaboration

Cases like the successful VAAC London – VAAC Buenos Aires' collaboration encourages the implementation of a

Volcanic Ash Advisory Center (VAAC) Common webpage focused on the sharing of relevant information/products amongst the 9 (nine) VAACs.

(Ref.: Conclusion 7/22 IAVWOPSG/7, ICAO) .



Best Practices has clearly translated into...

- Best use of the available meteorological and vulcanological information
- Best use of Science and its direct application into Operations
- Best use of human resources capabilities by continuous enhanced Training
- Benefit from original inter-VAAC collaboration



VAAC Buenos Aires

Best Practices has clearly translated into

- Better communication with users
- Better understanding of their needs
- Better quality service delivery (continuous, harmonized, consistent)
- Reliable to aviation stakeholders, mass media and general public.





**As an on-going effort to maximize
Aviation Safety in S.A.**

The National Meteorological Service of Argentina is glad to announce the hosting of the next,

- **WMO VAAC Best Practice meeting, and**
- **ICAO METP MET Operations Group (MOG) meeting**

25-29 April, 2016.

TKS!!

