

# SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL WORKSHOP OF THE DATA BUOY COOPERATION PANEL

Venue: Cape Town, Republic of South Africa  
Date 13 October 2008

The Scientific and Technical Workshop preceding the annual Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) meetings has become an important forum for stimulating discussion among data buoy operators, designers, and data users. The twenty-fourth session of the DBCP (DBCP-XXIV) will be hosted by the South African Weather Service (SAWS), Republic of South Africa, and will begin Monday, 13 October 2008 and end on the 16 October 2008. Full details of arrangements for DBCP-XXIV will be forthcoming in a separate mailing.

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

The interest and participation of oceanographic and marine meteorological experts in the activities of the DBCP continues to increase each year. The DBCP Scientific and Technical Workshop precedes the meeting, will begin Monday, 13 October 2008 at 9 am and end around 5 pm the same day. It presents an ideal opportunity for scientists, operators, and manufacturers to relate their experiences, to exchange knowledge, and to build on or learn from the innovations, developments and good practices of their peers.

## 2. WORKSHOP THEMES

2.1 REGULAR THEMES. The regular themes of the Workshop are:

- Technology Demands and Developments – demands for enhanced observations collection technology; innovations or developments in related marine observation systems; developments in buoys / instruments (e.g. wave measurements).
- Operational Practices and Enhancements – evaluation or analysis of operational performance or trials; data communications and data assimilation; performance and efficiency benchmarking; new systems and practices;
- Applications of Collected Data – research and operational data applications; case studies.

2.2 SPECIAL FOCUS. In addition to the regular themes, this year's workshop will have a major focus on "Marine forecast and services, Numerical Weather Prediction, and coastal risk management" Topics of interest are:

- Marine forecast – National experience with regard to marine forecast and impact of buoy observations.
- Numerical Weather Prediction – National experience with regard to NWP and impact of buoy observations.
- Use of wave information – The use of wave information (in situ observations, satellite products, models) for shipping, port management, and coastal risk management; and the need for *in situ* observational data for the validation of wave models and satellite wave products, and for specific coastal applications.
- Data timeliness – Improvement of data timeliness by using specific data distribution systems via national and/or international gateways, existing and new satellite data telecommunication systems and their developments; DBCP drifter Iridium Pilot Project.

Material presented at the Workshop may be sourced from any part of the globe, but topics of relevance to the host region are particularly welcomed.

### **3. WORKSHOP FORMAT**

3.1 The Workshop will begin following the official opening of DBCP-XXIV at approximately 0915 hours on 13 October 2008, and will continue until approximately 1700 hours on the same day. Each presentation will be allocated twenty minutes, which includes five minutes for questions and discussion. Any presenter requesting any change to this format should do so at the time of submitting the paper abstract.

3.2 A laptop PC with projector, as well as overhead projector for viewgraphs, will be provided. Special audio-visual requirements should be communicated to the Workshop Coordinators when the abstract is submitted.

### **4. SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS AND PRESENTATION MATERIALS**

4.1 Those of you interested in making presentation at the workshop are invited to Bill Burnett and Johan Stander with summaries of your presentations before 31 July 2008. After consideration of the abstracts, the Workshop Coordinators will notify presenters of their acceptance, and will invite the submission of a draft presenter schedule. Full papers will be required by 16 September. All presentations will be published in early 2009 on CD-ROM in the Workshop proceedings.

4.2 As a guide, abstracts should be of no more than 200 words, indicating the nature of the presentation or paper, and its key findings or significance. An abstract of all presentations is required for inclusion in the programme.

4.3 The contact details for the Workshop Coordinators are:

Dr William Burnett  
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National Weather Service, NOAA  
1007 Balch Blvd.  
STENNIS SPACE CENTER, MS 39529-5001  
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4.4 The Workshop Coordinators will notify presenters well in advance of the meeting of any variations to the presenter schedule or time allocation.

4.5 To minimize idle time at the Workshop, participants making presentations using electronic media should provide their presentation in PowerPoint format via e-mail or CD ROM to the Workshop Coordinators no later than close of business on Friday 26 September 2008.

### **5. DETAILS OF VENUE HOTELS AND TRANSPORTATION**

5.1 Details regarding the venue, hotels, transportation, etc., will be sent to all nominated participants well in advance of the Workshop. All Workshop participants are welcome to participate in the subsequent session of the DBCP.

**Please note that no external funding is available for participant support for the Workshop or DBCP session.**

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