

**Recommendation 9 (JCOMM-III)****MODIFICATIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME METEOROLOGICAL TAPE FORMAT AND MINIMUM QUALITY CONTROL STANDARD**

THE JOINT WMO/IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY,

**Noting:**

- (1) The *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558), Volume I, Appendix I.13 – Layout for the International Maritime Meteorological Tape, and Appendix I.15 – Minimum Quality Control Standards,
- (2) The final report of the second session of the JCOMM Expert Team on Marine Climatology (JCOMM/MR-No. 50),

**Considering:**

- (1) That the International Maritime Meteorological Tape (IMMT) format is the primary format for the exchange of marine climatological data, for both the Marine Climatological Summaries Scheme (MCSS) and the VOSCLim,
- (2) The importance of the Minimum Quality Control Standard (MQCS) to the quality of the data in the MCSS archives,
- (3) The importance to the Global Collecting Centres of keeping both the IMMT and the MQCS up to date,

**Recognizing** the need for including information on the source of observations (electronic or paper logbook) in IMMT; as well as the need for taking account in MQCS of increased deck cargo height of modern cargo vessels,

**Recommends:**

- (1) That the amendments to the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558) and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471), as detailed in Annexes 1 and 2 to this recommendation be approved, and included in the appropriate appendices in the Manual and Guide;
- (2) That the new version (IMMT-IV) of the IMMT format be implemented generally for all data collected as from 1 January 2011;
- (3) That the new version of the Minimum Quality Control Standard (MQCS-VI) be also implemented generally for all data collected as from 1 January 2011;

**Requests** the Expert Team on Marine Climatology to continue to review the implementation and value of the revised format and quality control standard, to provide technical assistance to the Members/Member States concerned as required and to propose further amendments to the format and standard as necessary;

**Requests** the Secretary-General of WMO to provide appropriate technical advisory assistance to Members/Member States concerned, as required, in the implementation of the revised format and standard.

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## Annex 2 to Recommendation 9 (JCOMM-III)

### AMENDMENTS TO THE *MANUAL ON MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES* (WMO-No. 558) AND THE *GUIDE TO MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES* (WMO-No. 471)

#### MINIMUM QUALITY CONTROL STANDARD (MQCS) MQCS-VI (Version 6)

**Notes:**

- (a) **Highlighting** marks changes with respect to MQCS-V.
- (b) See the specifications for setting quality control Indicators  $Q_1$  to  $Q_{29}$  at the end of this annex.
- (c)  $\Delta$  = space (ASCII 32).

<i>Element</i>	<i>Error</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	$i_T \neq 3 - 5, \Delta$	Correct manually otherwise <b>3</b>
2	AAAA $\neq$ valid year	Correct manually otherwise reject
3	MM $\neq$ 01 - 12	Correct manually otherwise reject
4	YY $\neq$ valid day of month	Correct manually otherwise reject
5	GG $\neq$ 00 - 23	Correct manually otherwise reject
6	$Q_C \neq 1, 3, 5, 7$ $Q_C = \Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{20} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{20} = 4$ $Q_{20} = 2$
7	$L_a L_a L_a \neq 000-900$ $L_a L_a L_a = \Delta\Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{20} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{20} = 4$ $Q_{20} = 2$
8	$L_o L_o L_o L_o \neq 0000-1800$ $L_o L_o L_o L_o = \Delta\Delta\Delta\Delta$ $L_a L_a L_a = L_o L_o L_o L_o = \Delta\Delta\Delta(\Delta)$	Correct manually and $Q_{20} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{20} = 4$ $Q_{20} = 2$ Correct manually otherwise reject
<u><i>Time sequence checks</i></u>		
	Change in latitude $> 0.7^\circ/\text{hr}$	Correct manually otherwise $Q_{20} = 3$
	Change in longitude $> 0.7^\circ/\text{hr}$ when lat. 00–39.9	Correct manually otherwise $Q_{20} = 3$
	Change in longitude $> 1.0^\circ/\text{hr}$ when lat. 40–49.9	Correct manually otherwise $Q_{20} = 3$
	Change in longitude $> 1.4^\circ/\text{hr}$ when lat. 50–59.9	Correct manually otherwise $Q_{20} = 3$
	Change in longitude $> 2.0^\circ/\text{hr}$ when lat. 60–69.9	Correct manually otherwise $Q_{20} = 3$
	Change in longitude $> 2.7^\circ/\text{hr}$ when lat. 70–79.9	Correct manually otherwise $Q_{20} = 3$
<b>9</b>	<b>Indicator <math>\neq 0-3, \Delta</math></b>	<b>Correct manually, otherwise <math>\Delta</math></b>
10	$h \neq 0-9$ $h = \Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_1 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_1 = 4$ $Q_1 = 9$
11	$VV \neq 90-99$ $VV = \Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_2 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_2 = 4$ $Q_2 = 9$
12	$N \neq 0-9, \Delta$ $N < N_h$	Correct manually and $Q_3 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_3 = 4$ Correct manually and $Q_3 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_3 = 2$
13	$dd \neq 00-36, 99$ $dd = \Delta\Delta$ dd versus ff $dd = 00, ff \neq 00$  $dd \neq 00, ff = 00$	Correct manually and $Q_4 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_4 = 4$ $Q_4 = 9$  Correct manually and $Q_4$ or $Q_5 = 5$ otherwise $Q_4 = Q_5 = 2$ Correct manually and $Q_4$ or $Q_5 = 5$ otherwise $Q_4 = Q_5 = 2$
14	$i_w \neq 0, 1, 3, 4$	Correct manually, otherwise $Q_5 = Q_{29} = 4$
15	$ff > 80$ knots $ff = \Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_5 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_5 = 3$ $Q_5 = 9$
16	$s_n \neq 0, 1$	Correct manually, otherwise $Q_6 = 4$
17	$TTT = \Delta\Delta\Delta$ If $-25 > TTT > 40$ then when Lat. $< 45.0$ $TTT < -25$ $TTT > 40$ when Lat. $\geq 45.0$ $TTT < -25$ $TTT > 40$	$Q_6 = 9$     $Q_6 = 4$ $Q_6 = 3$   $Q_6 = 3$ $Q_6 = 4$
<u><i>TTT versus humidity parameters</i></u>		
	$TTT < \text{WB}$ (wet bulb) $TTT < \text{DP}$ (dew point)	Correct manually and $Q_6 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_6 = Q_{19} = 2$ Correct manually and $Q_6 = Q_7 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_6 = Q_7 = 2$
18	$s_t \neq 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7$	Correct manually, otherwise $Q_7 = 4$
19	$\text{DP} > \text{WB}$ $\text{DP} > \text{TTT}$ $\text{WB} = \text{DP} = \Delta\Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_7 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_7 = Q_{19} = 2$ Correct manually and $Q_7 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_7 = Q_6 = 2$ $Q_7 = Q_{19} = 9$
20	$930 > \text{PPPP} > 1050$ hPa $870 > \text{PPPP} > 1070$ hPa $\text{PPPP} = \Delta\Delta\Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_8 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_8 = 3$ Correct manually and $Q_8 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_8 = 4$ $Q_8 = 9$
21	$ww = 22-24, 26, 36-39, 48, 49, 56, 57,$ $66-79, 83-88$	Correct manually and $Q_9 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_9 = 4$

Element	Error	Action
	93-94 and latitude <20° if $i_x = 7$ :	Correct manually and $Q_9 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_9 = 3$
	$w_a w_a = 24-25, 35, 47-48, 54-56,$ 64-68, 70-78, 85-87 and latitude <20°	Correct manually and $Q_9 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_9 = 4$
22, 23	$W_1$ or $W_2 = 7$ and latitude <20° $W_1 < W_2$	Correct manually and $Q_9 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_9 = 4$ Correct manually and $Q_9 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_9 = 2$
24-27	$W_1 = W_2 = ww = \Delta\Delta\Delta\Delta$ $N = 0$ , and $N_h C_L C_M C_H \neq 0000$ $N = \Delta$ , and $N_h C_L C_M C_H \neq \Delta\Delta\Delta\Delta$ $N = 9$ , and not ( $N_h = 9$ and $C_L C_M C_H \neq \Delta\Delta\Delta$ ) $N = \Delta$ , and $N_h C_L C_M C_H = \Delta\Delta\Delta\Delta$	$Q_9 = 9$ Correct manually and $Q_3 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_3 = 2$ Correct manually and $Q_3 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_3 = 2$ Correct manually and $Q_3 = 5$ , otherwise $Q_3 = 2$
28	$s_n \neq 0, 1$	$Q_3 = 9$ Correct manually otherwise $Q_{10} = 4$
29	$T_w T_w T_w = \Delta\Delta\Delta$ if $-2.0 > T_w T_w T_w > 37.0$ then when Lat. < 45.0 $T_w T_w T_w < -2.0$ $T_w T_w T_w > 37.0$ when Lat. $\geq 45.0$ $T_w T_w T_w < -2.0$ $T_w T_w T_w > 37.0$	$Q_{10} = 9$ Control manually and $Q_{10} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{10} = 4$ Control manually and $Q_{10} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{10} = 3$ Control manually and $Q_{10} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{10} = 3$ Control manually and $Q_{10} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{10} = 4$
30	Indicator $\neq 0-7, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
31	Indicator $\neq 0-9, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
32	$20 < P_w P_w < 30$ $P_w P_w \geq 30$ and $\neq 99$ $P_w P_w = \Delta\Delta$	$Q_{11} = 3$ $Q_{11} = 4$ $Q_{11} = 9$
33	$35 < H_w H_w < 50$ $H_w H_w \geq 50$ $H_w H_w = \Delta\Delta$	$Q_{12} = 3$ $Q_{12} = 4$ $Q_{12} = 9$
34	$d_{w1} d_{w1} \neq 00-36, 99$ swell <sub>1</sub> = swell <sub>2</sub> = $\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{13} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{13} = 4$ $Q_{13} = 9$
35	$25 < P_{w1} P_{w1} < 30$ $P_{w1} P_{w1} \geq 30$ and $\neq 99$	$Q_{13} = 3$ $Q_{13} = 4$
36	$35 < H_{w1} H_{w1} < 50$ $H_{w1} H_{w1} \geq 50$	$Q_{13} = 3$ $Q_{13} = 4$
37	$I_s \neq 1-5, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
38	$E_s E_s \neq 00-99, \Delta\Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta\Delta$
39	$R_s \neq 0-4, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
40	Source $\neq 0-6$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
41	Platform $\neq 0-9$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
42	No call sign	Insert manually, mandatory entry
43	No country code	Insert manually
44	No Quality Control	
45	$Q \neq 0-6, 9$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
46	$i_x \neq 1-7$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
47	$i_R = 0-2$ and $RRR = 000, \Delta\Delta\Delta$ $i_R = 3$ and $RRR \neq \Delta\Delta\Delta$ $i_R = 4$ and $RRR \neq \Delta\Delta\Delta$ $i_R \neq 0-4$	Correct manually, otherwise $Q_{14} = 4$ Correct manually, otherwise $Q_{14} = 2$ Correct manually, otherwise $Q_{14} = 2$ Correct manually, otherwise $Q_{14} = 4$
48	$RRR \neq 001-999$ and $i_R = 1, 2$	Correct manually and $Q_{14} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{14} = 2$
49	$t_R \neq 0-9, \Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{14} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{14} = 4$
50	$s_w \neq 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7$	Correct manually, otherwise $Q_{19} = 4$
51	$WB < DP$ $WB = \Delta\Delta\Delta$ $WB > TTT$	Correct manually and $Q_{19} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{19} = Q_7 = 2$ $Q_{19} = 9$ Correct manually and $Q_{19} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{19} = Q_6 = 2$
52	$a \neq 0-8$ $a = 4$ and $ppp \neq 000$  $a = 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8$ and $ppp = 000$ $a = \Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{15} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{15} = 4$ Correct manually and $Q_{15}$ or $Q_{16} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{15} = Q_{16} = 2$ $Q_{15} = 9$ Correct manually and $Q_{15}$ or $Q_{16} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{15} = Q_{16} = 2$ $Q_{15} = 9$
53	$250 \geq ppp > 150$ $ppp > 250$ $ppp = \Delta\Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{16} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{16} = 3$ Correct manually and $Q_{16} = 5$ otherwise $Q_{16} = 4$ $Q_{16} = 9$
54	$D_s \neq 0-9$ $D_s = \Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{17} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{17} = 4$ $Q_{17} = 9$

<i>Element</i>	<i>Error</i>	<i>Action</i>
55	$V_s \neq 0-9$ $V_s = \Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{18} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{18} = 4$ $Q_{18} = 9$
56	$d_{w2}d_{w2} \neq 00-36, 99, \Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{13} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{13} = 8$
57	$25 < P_{w2}P_{w2} < 30$ $P_{w2}P_{w2} \geq 30$ and $\neq 99$	$Q_{13} = 3$ $Q_{13} = 4$
58	$35 < H_{w2}H_{w2} < 50$ $H_{w2}H_{w2} \geq 50$	$Q_{13} = 3$ $Q_{13} = 4$
59	$c_i \neq 0-9, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
60	$S_i \neq 0-9, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
61	$b_i \neq 0-9, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
62	$D_i \neq 0-9, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
63	$z_i \neq 0-9, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
64	version $\neq 0-9, A, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
65	version $\neq 0-4, \Delta$	Correct manually, otherwise $\Delta$
86	Minimum Quality Control Standard (MQCS) version identification	1= MQCS-I (Original version, Feb. 1989) CMM-X 2= MQCS-II (Version 2, March 1997) CMM-XII 3= MQCS-III (Version 3, April 2000) SGM-C-VIII 4= MQCS-IV (Version 4, June 2001) JCOMM-I 5= MQCS-V (Version 5, July 2004) ETMC-I <b>6 = MQCS-VI (this version, to be agreed)</b>
87	$HDG \neq 000-360$ $HDG = \Delta\Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{22} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{22} = 4$ $Q_{22} = 9$
88	$COG \neq 000-360$ $COG = \Delta\Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{23} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{23} = 4$ $Q_{23} = 9$
89	$SOG \neq 00-99$ $SOG = \Delta\Delta$ $SOG > 33$	Correct manually and $Q_{24} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{24} = 4$ $Q_{24} = 9$ Correct manually and $Q_{24} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{24} = 3$
90	$SLL \neq 00-99$ $SLL = \Delta\Delta$ <b><math>SLL &gt; 40</math></b>	Correct manually and $Q_{25} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{25} = 4$ $Q_{25} = 9$ Correct manually and $Q_{25} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{25} = 3$
91	$s_L \neq 0,1$	Correct manually and $Q_{27} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{27} = 4$
92	$hh \neq 00-99$ $hh = \Delta\Delta$ $hh \geq 13$ $hh < -01$	Correct manually and $Q_{27} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{27} = 4$ $Q_{27} = 9$ Correct manually and $Q_{27} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{27} = 3$ Correct manually and $Q_{27} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{27} = 4$
93	$RWD \neq 000 - 360, 999$ $RWD = \Delta\Delta\Delta$	Correct manually and $Q_{28} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{28} = 4$ $Q_{28} = 9$
94	$RWS \neq 000-999$ $RWS = \Delta\Delta\Delta$ $RWS > 110$ kts	Correct manually and $Q_{29} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{29} = 4$ $Q_{28} = 9$ Correct manually and $Q_{29} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{29} = 3$
<b><i>RWD versus RWS</i></b>		
	$RWD = 000, RWS \neq 000$	Correct manually and $Q_{28}$ or $Q_{29} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{28} = Q_{29} = 2$
	$RWD \neq 000, RWS = 000$	Correct manually and $Q_{28}$ or $Q_{29} = 5$ , otherwise $Q_{28} = Q_{29} = 2$
<b><i>Specifications for setting quality control Indicators <math>Q_1</math> to <math>Q_{29}</math></i></b>		
0	No quality control (QC) has been performed on this element	
1	QC has been performed; element appears to be correct	
2	QC has been performed; element appears to be inconsistent with other elements	
3	QC has been performed; element appears to be doubtful	
4	QC has been performed; element appears to be erroneous	
5	The value has been changed as a result of QC	
6	The original flag is set "1" (correct) and the value will be classified by MQCS as inconsistent, dubious, erroneous or missing	
7	The original flag is set "5" (amended) and the value will be classified by MQCS as inconsistent, dubious, erroneous or missing	
8	Reserve	
9	The value of the element is missing	