

RSMC TOULOUSE 2017 REPORT

Executive Summary

Primary activities for 2017 consisted of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) tests, including last June ConvEx3 exercise, quarterly IAEA tests and regular monthly tests and incremental updates and improvements to the response procedures, software, and to the joint RSMC secure web pages, which are used for communicating transport model products to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) and between RSMCs.

RSMC Toulouse received – both operational and planned - requests for inverse modelling support from the Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) during all the year.

Modelling capacities have been improved with GRIB2 new output format and tests on a higher horizontal resolution.

1. Introduction

Météo-France is designated by the WMO as the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) for the provision of atmospheric transport modelling in case of an environmental Emergency Response. The regions of responsibility are WMO Regional Associations (RA) I & VI which encompasses Europe, Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Africa. This responsibility is shared with RSMC Exeter.

Météo-France National Forecast Centre operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and has the responsibility of providing forecasts for the spread of pollutants (nuclear, chemical). The service consists on an immediate delivery of meteorological observation data, followed by forecast and modelling dispersion products. In case of a nuclear accident, national meteorological services could « request for RSMC support ».

In addition to emergency response, RSMC Toulouse contributes global inverse modelling support to the CTBTO verification system

2. Operational Contact Information

	Operational contact (24 hours) Chief Forecaster – Toulouse	Business Contact (office hours)
Address	National Forecast Center Météo-France General Forecast Department 42 Av. G. Coriolis 31057 TOULOUSE CEDEX France	Jean Nicolau Météo-France General Forecast Department 42 Av. G. Coriolis 31057 TOULOUSE CEDEX France
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Email	cmc@meteo.fr	jean.nicolau@meteo.fr

3. Responses and information on dissemination of products

Models used

Two models may be used, according to the needs :

- The global **MOCAGE** model coupled with the French atmospheric global model ARPEGE or with the European ECMWF global model. Standard outputs are available 20 minutes after launch, for a three days or more forecast. MOCAGE offers the possibility of computing retro-trajectories for CTBTO. The resolution is 0.5° for 47 vertical levels
- The local **PERLE** high resolution dispersion model system.
 - 3 possibilities of meteorological coupling :
 - AROME model up to 2,5 km resolution covering France
 - ARPEGE/MESO-NH covering Europe
 - ECMWF/MESO-NH global cover.

LPDM diffusion model is used. First outputs are available 15 minutes after launch. The forecast is up to 24 hours. Since sept. 2017, the output resolution is 2 km, for a 100km*100 km domain and 8km for a 500km*500 km (the previous domains were 60km*60km and 240km*240km).

Products are distributed either by fax, email, on internet (mirror web sites of Toulouse RSMC, with a specific external link created for each new event)

The presentation of RSMC Toulouse is available on <http://www.meteorologie.eu.org/CMC>

Participation in international inverse dispersion modelling events and exercises with CTBTO

During 2017 RSMC Toulouse has received occasional requests for both real and exercise scenarios from the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO). These were all responded to within the expected timescale

Routine operations

Quarterly exercises: RSMC Toulouse took part in the different quarterly exercise planned by IAEA. Graphics were posted to the relevant RSMC mirrored websites, as well as to the IAEA and to NMSs within RA I and RA VI

In addition, RSMC Toulouse has been responding to the monthly tests hold by RSMCs Melbourne, Montreal and Washington by running dispersion models and sending output onto the mirrored RSMC web pages.

In June 2017, RSMC Toulouse has participated, as lead RSMC (with RSMC Exeter) to the ConvEx-3 NPP accident exercise (theoretical release from Paks NPP, Hungary).

4. Significant operational or technical changes in 2017 :

- Development of a new GUI for launching dispersion models
- MOCAGE :
 - Test on a 15min step and the possibility of using a nested domain of 40°X40° with a higher resolution : 0.1° for ARPEGE-MOCAGE and 0.125 for IFS-MOCAGE, both for the atmospheric and the ATDM models (in operations a unique 0,5° resolution is used for the global domain).
 - GRIB2 output in operations
 - Work on ToA products for ConvEx3 exercice
- PERLE :
 - extended version in operations (domain of 500km)
 - Tests on using Flexpart
 - GRIB2 output in operations

5. Plans for 2018-2019 :

Developments and studies

- Development of products for non-nuclear emergency response activity
- MOCAGE:
 - high resolution in operations
- PERLE :
 - Development of an extended version (end of the dev.)
 - Tests on using Flexpart (tbc)
- new GUI for launching dispersion models in operations
- Running HR dispersion model on overseas areas

International exercises

- RSMC Toulouse will take part in all IAEA or WMO emergencies requests, tests and exercises, and in all CTBTO requests.
- RSMC Toulouse will participate to the monthly test hold by RSMC Washington/Melbourne/Montreal.

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