

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS
OPEN PROGRAMME AREA GROUP
ON INTEGRATED OBSERVING SYSTEMS

28.VIII.2013

EXPERT TEAM ON AIRCRAFT-BASED OBSERVING SYSTEMS
FIRST SESSION

ITEM: 3.1

Original: ENGLISH

Geneva, Switzerland, 10-13 July, 2013

STATUS OF THE AIRCRAFT-BASED OBSERVATIONS PROGRAMS

Reports of Operational National & Regional Programs

(Submitted by Wim van Dijk, New Zealand)

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

Provides a status report on the AMDAR Program of New Zealand.

ACTION PROPOSED

The Session is invited to review and discuss the content of the document.

Appendices

1. Program Metadata
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PROGRESS AND ACTIVITY REPORT

Current Status

1. MetService works with Air New Zealand to provide AMDARs within the area 20S to 50S and 155E to 160W. In July 2013 there were over 87,000 such reports.
2. MetService also has a cost sharing arrangement with the Australian Bureau of Meteorology for AMDAR reports within the area 0S to 50S and 160E to 160W. In July 2013 there were over 42,000 AMDAR reports within this area.

Development & Other Activities

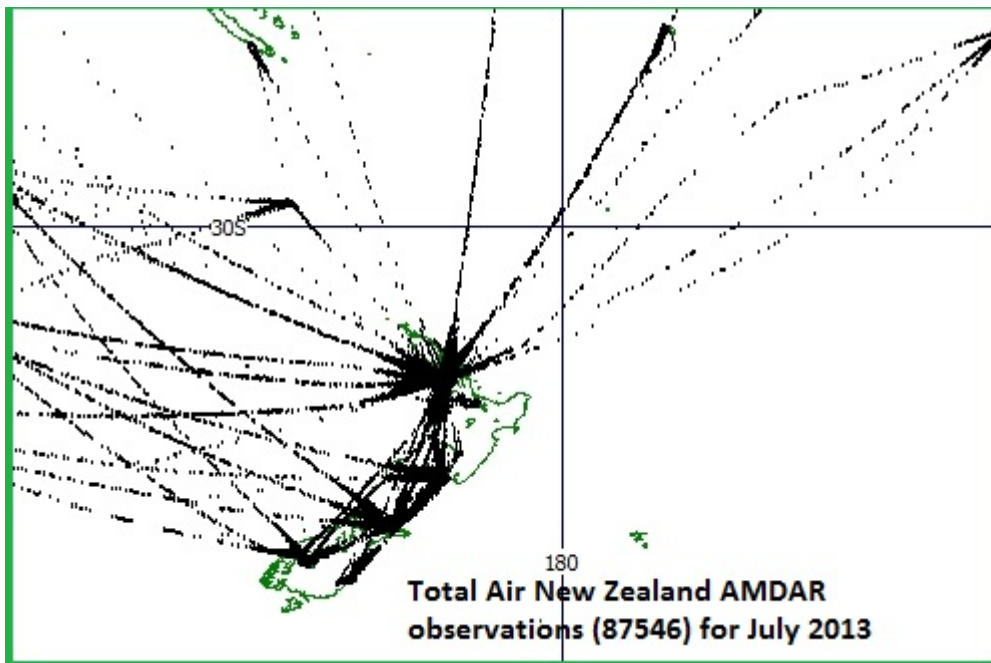
1. The Air New Zealand fleet is changing from being mostly Boeing 737 to increasingly A320. At the same time the number of AMDAR reports from flights to South Pacific islands has slowly grown.

Future Plans

2. New Zealand intends to maintain the current fleet and coverage and if resources allow will look to increase the number of aircraft. In November 2014 we intend to stop sending alphanumeric AMDAR bulletins on the GTS and only transmit binary (BUFR) bulletins.

APPENDIX 1**PROGRAM METADATA****Operational Fleet**

Airline	Country of Airline	Aircraft Type (e.g. B737-400)	Number of Aircraft	AMDAR Software	Format On GTS (BUFR / FM42)
Air New Zealand	New Zealand	B737-300	9	proprietary	Both BUFR and FM42
Air New Zealand	New Zealand	A320-200	18	proprietary	Both BUFR and FM42

Program Coverage

Airport Country	Airport Name	Airport ID (IATA)	Profiles per week
New Zealand	Auckland	AKL	854
New Zealand	Wellington	WLG	510
New Zealand	Christchurch	CHC	391
New Zealand	Queenstown	ZQN	57
New Zealand	Dunedin	DUD	116
Tonga	Fua amotu	TBU	5
Australia	Norfolk Island	NLK	8
Cook Islands	Rarotonga	RAR	2

Notes

- a) These reports are collected from the area 20S to 50S and 155E to 160W. The metadata in the table was derived from looking at all externally transmitted reports in 2013 up to 27 August. A profile was counted if an aircraft reported an AMDAR that was within 30km of an airport and more than 3 hours different to the previous AMDAR from that aircraft.