The TAF Online Check is a verification tool for single TAFs

When using the TAF Online Check, please select

- The country in which the airport is located: click on the flag
- The airport: click on the location indicator
- The date: default is today. For changing, use the calendar. To close the calendar, double-click the day. TAFs and METARs are available from 2007-01-01 onwards.
- The <- and -> buttons allow you to go backwards and forwards one day at a time.
- After selecting airport and date, a list of all available TAFs of the day is displayed.
- The list contains the time of issue and the time period of validity.
- Select the TAF by clicking. The results should be displayed almost immediately.

- If no list of TAFs appears, please check if a location indicator is highlighted and a valid date has been selected.
- Some TAFs in the list may be flagged:
    - "E" indicates an error, which is found when the TAF is issued as "NIL" or when there is an error in the TAF (mistyped, time group out of forecast time, etc.). An error message is displayed when you select the TAF.
    - "C" indicates a corrected TAF (TAF COR).
    - "A" indicates an amended TAF (TAF AMD).
- If a TAF is not contained in the list, it has not been received or processed by the data base. (There have been major problems after the change on 2008-11-05, but they were solved on 2008-11-06).
- For dates before 2008-11-05, only one type of forecast (FC or FT) will be displayed, depending on what is currently issued.

Results

- The results are displayed in tables for visibility (VIS), ceiling height (CLD), present weather (WX), wind speed (WIND_FF) and wind direction (WIND_DDD).
- In the date/time section, day and time are displayed for which forecasts and observations are compared. Each column is valid for one hour of the TAF.
- In the grey field on the right, element and classes of values / phenomena are displayed.
- In the columns, forecasts and observations of the hour and element are evaluated.
- For VIS, CLD, WX and WIND_FF, forecast conditions which have occurred (what we all want) are green. Forecast conditions which have not occurred are hatched. Observed conditions which were not forecast are red. Everything else is white. There is a legend below the list of TAFs.
- METAR Observations within and short before the hour are used to check all valid forecast conditions (including those given with PROB and PROB TEMPO).

- For WIND_DDD, there are 2 lines for 2 METAR observations of each hour. The minute of the METAR messages is indicated at the right. The legend is different.

  - When the observed wind speed is below the OBS wind speed limit, it is assumed that the wind direction is not important for flight operations (green and hatched).
  - When the observed wind speed is equal or above the OBS wind speed limit, the forecast is correct (green) if there is a direction forecast within the allowed deviation. The forecast is incorrect (red) if all forecast directions are outside the allowed deviation or VRB.
  - No comparison is made (white), (1) when the observed wind direction is VRB and the observed wind speed is equal or above the OBS wind speed limit, and (2) when the forecast wind direction is VRB and the forecast wind speed is above 3 kt. The latter indicates a forecast of unsteady and variable wind directions, which cannot be verified from METARs alone without sensor data.

- For development reasons, SPECIs are currently not used. However, it is planned to use them as far as they are made available to Austro Control in real time.
- If you want to see what really happened, please look at the messages listed below the tables.

The system has been developed to be used with Mozilla Firefox or Internet Explorer.

For further information and remarks, please contact your national MET Alliance verification group member (Belgocontrol: Raf Windmolders and Wim Demol, DWD: Bjoern Beckmann and Michael Eckert, KNMI: Nico Maat, MET Alliance: Tamara Comment, MET Eireann: Tony Tighe, METEO SWISS: Adrian Stolz, Austro Control: Guenter Mahringer and Horst Frey). Use the message function in the top right corner of the page.