



Observatory's Weather Forecasting and Warning Services Receiving ISO 9001:2015 Certification

Lee Kwok-lun



Earlier this year, the Observatory's weather forecasting and warning services received ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems certification. This makes the Observatory one of the first meteorological centres in the world to receive this certification. The Observatory will continue providing high-quality weather services to the public, through enhanced communication with clients, improved design of weather products and efficient workflow in weather forecasting.

Observatory staff at the ceremony to celebrate the ISO 9001:2015 certification.

HKO and GFS Joining Forces to Launch Dropsonde System

Cheung Ping

On 3 March, the Observatory and the Government Flying Service (GFS) held a joint press conference to launch the new dropsonde system, collecting extra meteorological data for the monitoring of tropical cyclones. A video about the dropsonde system can be viewed on the Observatory's YouTube channel.



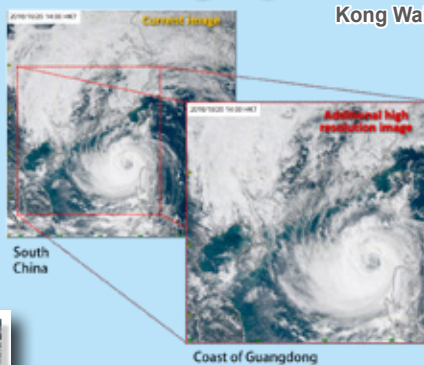
Captain Michael Chan (right), Controller of the GFS, and Ms Sharon Lau, Assistant Director of the Observatory, introducing the dropsonde system during the joint press conference.



New Version of Satellite Imagery Webpage

Kong Wai

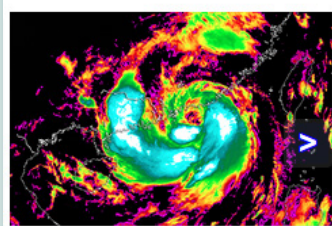
On 21 March, the Observatory enhanced its internet satellite imagery services, with additional high resolution images covering the coast of Guangdong. This enables viewers to better appreciate the weather conditions over Hong Kong and its vicinity.



Additional high resolution images covering the coast of Guangdong



2017-02-22 Cold Front



2016-08-01 Typhoon Nida

The "satellite imagery of interest" page has also been revamped and enhanced with an animation feature that improves the display of interesting weather phenomena.

The new satellite imagery of interest page

Lightning Nowcast

Woo Wang-chun

The Observatory has launched a "Hong Kong lightning nowcast" service, providing lightning nowcasts (one-hour forecasts) at users' current or designated locations. Members of the public can access the lightning nowcasts via the mobile web page or the "Automatic Regional Weather Forecast" web page. The lightning nowcasts are depicted as icons and presented as an animation on a map showing the future movement of storm areas where lightning is occurring.

