



Upfront

EMS Silver Medal 2009



Lennart Bengtsson

The 2009 EMS Silver Medal is awarded to Lennart Bengtsson for his outstanding leadership in the development of numerical weather prediction and climate research.

The Award Ceremony will be held on 30 September 2009 during the EMS Annual Meeting & ECAM in Toulouse, France.

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New items on emetsoc.org

- ▶ **EMS Annual Report**
The EMS Annual Report 2008 has been published online at www.emetsoc.org
Printed copies are distributed to all EMS Members and are also available on request to ems-sec at met.fu-berlin.de.

Upcoming Meetings of EMS Members

- ▶ **10th Baku International Congress - Energy, Ecology, Economy**
23–25 September 2009
Baku, Azerbaijan
ieacademy.org/Congress/10th/10th-congress.html
- ▶ **>c]bh`AYYh]b[`cZ`FA`YhG`UbX`**
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ÁÁÁÁ`21 October 2009, London, UK
www.rmets.org/events/detail.php?ID=4349
Young Scientist travel awards are available for this meeting.
- ▶ **GYgg]cb`Dfc[fU`a`a`Y`c`**
.....h`Y`9AG`/'`975A`&\$\$`- is now available at
meetings.copernicus.org/ems2009/programme

Submit an Award proposal or application before ...

- ▶ **%+`>i`m`\$`- for the Outreach & Communication Award**
- ▶ **'%`>i`m`\$`- for the TV Weather Forecast Award**
- ▶ **'%`>i`m`\$`- for the EMS Broadcast Meteorologist Award**

- ▶ **'%`>i`m`\$`- for the EMS Young Scientist Award**
- ▶ **'`GYdhYa`VYf`\$`- for the Young Scientist Travel Award to attend the Joint Meeting of RMetS and EMS**
All Announcements are at: emetsoc.org/awards/awards.php

Register before ...

- ▶ **&\$`>i`m`\$`- for the 11th Plinius Conference on Mediterranean Storms**
7–11 September 2009, Barcelona
meetings.copernicus.org/plinius11
- ▶ **'%`>i`m`\$`- for the 2009 EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference**
21–25 September 2009, Bath, UK
www.mtooffice.gov.uk/conference/eumetsat
- ▶ **&%`5`i`[`igh`\$`- for the EMS &ECAM 2009**
28 September–2 October 2009, Toulouse, France.
meetings.copernicus.org/ems2009
- ▶ **'%`>i`m`\$`- for the 5th European Conference on Severe Storms,**
12–16 October 2009, Landshut, Germany
www.essl.org/ECSS/2009
- ▶ **%)`GYdhYa`VYf`\$`- for the 2009 SOLAS Open Science Conference,**
16–19 November 2009, Barcelona
solas2009.confmanager.com
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.....**a`Yb`** at ETH Zurich.
The course is designed for engineers, natural scientists and planners, wishing to understand processes relating to natural hazards, how to evaluate risk and how to ensure sustainable management of infrastructure and the environment"
<http://www.ibk.ethz.ch/fa/haz/>

Questionnaire to EMS Member organisations

In April the Policy Advisory and Development Group (PADG) conducted an online survey with the aim of seeking input from Member Societies and Associate Members about their needs and requirements with respect to the EMS work, and how they perceive and assess the accomplishments of the EMS.

43 responses were received, 14 of these from Associate Members. A first evaluation shows the following.

- EMS Members feel well informed about EMS activities, but it is not clear whether individual members are interested in EMS activities. The EMS website and online newsletter provide useful information, but they are hardly used to keep their membership informed about EMS activities.
- There is a strong deficit in information available about other EMS Members. At the same time there is a strong request for more information about Members' activities. High interest was expressed in information on best practices in publication.
- About 60% of Members organise meetings and conferences and about 35% would appreciate support in their organisation or to develop a European dimension. The Committee on Meetings is looking into the detailed proposals and suggestions and will contact Members to discuss how specific support can be arranged.

- 75% feel a stronger involvement of Associate Members in the EMS activities would be of benefit. Also 75% are against a change in the institutional distinction between Member Societies and Associate Members, among these most of the Associate Members. Three Associate Members would welcome a progressive weakening of the distinction.
- A majority feels that they benefit from EMS Membership
- More than 50% have more or less strong views that the EMS should try to develop a collective opinion on matters concerning meteorology and climatology.

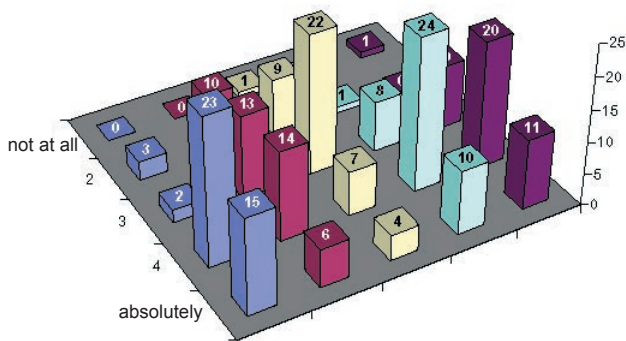
The PADG is currently looking in more detail at what can be learnt from the feedback and identifying the first steps needed to address the most urgent issues. However, the most obvious challenge is to meet the objective that apparently was established at the beginning of the formation of the EMS network: to be informed about activities of meteorologists in other European countries and on a European level. This is not a one-way street, and we ask all of you to provide information on your activities to the EMS Office on a regular basis, so it can be disseminated within the community.

We thank all that have contributed to the survey!

PADG, June 2009.

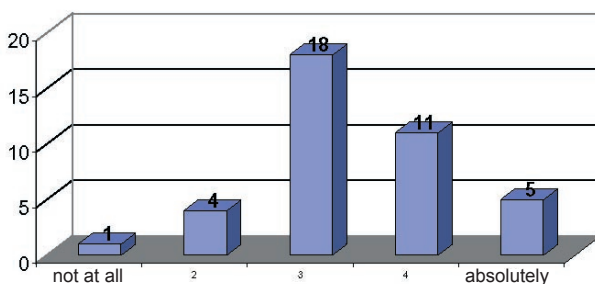
Communication I

- Is the ems-message providing you with useful information?
- Is the EMS website providing you with the information you require?
- Are members of your organisation interested in EMS activities?
- Are members of your organisation kept informed?
- Are you receiving sufficient information about EMS?



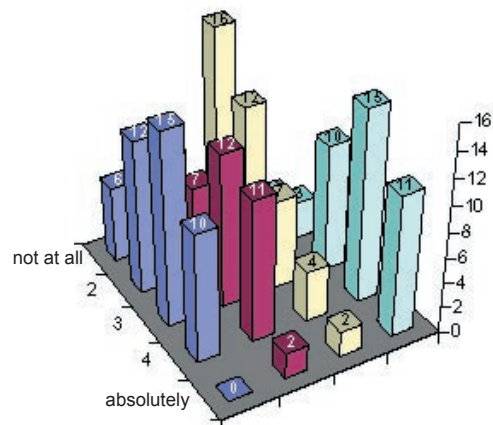
Benefit from the EMS

- As a Member Society or Associate Member do you benefit from EMS?



Communication II

- Are you receiving sufficient information about activities of other Member Societies and Associate Members?
- Do you think the EMS is relevant/interesting for or members of your organisation?
- Are you using the ems-message to inform other Member organisations about your activities?
- Do you find it of value to be provided with information about best publication practices and new developments in publications of meteorological material?



► **GOCE launch**

ESA's gravity mission GOCE (Gravity field and steady-state Ocean Circulation Explorer) has achieved a first in the history of satellite technology. The sophisticated electric propulsion system has shown that it is able to keep the satellite completely free from drag as it cuts through the remnants of Earth's atmosphere – paving the way for the best gravity data ever.

Launched on 17 March and currently progressing through the commissioning phase, GOCE is set to measure Earth's gravity field with unprecedented accuracy. However, this means that the satellite has to orbit the Earth as low as possible where the gravitational signal is stronger, but also where the fringes of the atmosphere remain. More information and to follow the ground track of GOCE go to www.esa.int/SPECIALS/GOCE/SEMGUV00WUF_0.html

► **German Weather Service supports weather forecast in Mozambique**

Four meteorologists from Mozambique are currently trained by DWD staff in Offenbach in the usage of the regional high-resolution forecast model. In August the model will be installed at the National Meteorological Service of Mozambique (INAM - Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia) and at the University of Maputo by DWD staff.

The aim is to improve weather prediction and thus help to mitigate the negative impacts of weather hazards. More timely and accurate warning will help people to be evacuated much faster and decrease the loss of property and food.

The training is organised as a joint development project with the German Development Agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and the German Ministry for Economic Collaboration and Development. Within the project, DWD provides the forecast model at no cost and transfers boundary condition data twice a day through the Internet.

► **8c'mc i' kUbh'hc' aU_Y'U''XJZYfybWY3**

In 2008 the British Council launched the European element of its global climate programme: Challenge Europe. The project is a three-year programme that aims to make a lasting impact on the climate change debate, and accelerate the change to a Low Carbon Future by engaging young people who will bear the full consequences of climate change.

In each of the participating countries 15–20 young people are recruited to become Climate Advocates. In exchange for the chance to participate in the programme, Climate Advocates are asked to commit approximately 200 hours of their time during the first year.

In Norway, for example, the Climate Advocates refined many ideas and developed independent projects on climate friendly buildings and agriculture.

For more information about the Advocates and their projects see challengeeurope.britishcouncil.org

► **German Climate Service Center opens**

A Climate Service Centre (CSC), established as a national platform for information and advice for policy, science and economy, was formally opened on 2 July 2009.

The centre is located in Hamburg and funded by the German Ministry for Education and Research for the first five years. The aim of the centre is to collect existing knowledge on climate change and its impacts, and thus make it more readily usable for different societal sectors and individuals.

The scientific director of the CSC will be Guy Brasseur, Associate Director of NCAR in Boulder, Colorado, USA, and former director of MPI for Meteorology in Hamburg. www.gkss.de/science_and_industry/klimaberatung/csc

► **European Research Area**

A seminar on www.ec.europa.eu/research/era/events-01_en.html, organised by the EC, was held on 2 June 2009 in Brussels.

In particular opportunities for Joint Programming of Member States were discussed.

All presentations, including a summary (and pictures) from the seminar, are available at: http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/events-01_en.html

► **India is no longer a radiosonde desert**

For many years, Indian radiosondes have generally been black-listed in the ECMWF operational data assimilation because of their inconsistency and poor overall quality. The Indian Meteorological Department has now begun a programme to update its radiosonde network (using the French Modem MK2K GPSonde).

Five sites were upgraded in March-April and ECMWF operational monitoring shows that they all provide good quality soundings. On 12 May, these five sites were removed from the blacklist and their data assimilated in the operational system. Five more sites were upgraded in May and assimilated from 12 June.

The whole upgrade of the Indian upper-air network will be finalised by mid-2010. For all meteorologists who have always seen India as a radiosonde desert, this is very good news.

► **ERA-Interim is now available**

The new ECMWF reanalysis, ERA-Interim, is now available after completing 20 years of reanalysis from 1989 to 2008. The production involved the use of more than 29 billion meteorological observations, and generated 60 terabytes of reanalysis products.

The ERA-Interim reanalysis is extended forward in near-real time, using the same version of the ECMWF model IFS, to maintain a consistent production. More information can be found on the ECMWF website, in particular in several articles of the ECMWF Newsletter. www.ecmwf.int

A large subset of the reanalysis is downloadable from the ECMWF Data Server: data.ecmwf.int/data

