



WORKING PAPER

**MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGY PANEL (METP)
WORKING GROUP MOG**

FIRST MEETING

Gatwick, London, United Kingdom, 8 to 11 September 2015

Agenda Item 3: Matters relating to SADIS

3.4: Development of the SADIS under METP and WGs

PROPOSAL TO REMOVE THE LAST 18 HOURS DATAFILE FROM SECURE SADIS FTP

(Presented by the SADIS Provider State)

SUMMARY

This working paper seeks endorsement to remove the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' datafile from Secure SADIS FTP.

Action by the METP-WG/MOG is in paragraph 5.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This working paper seeks endorsement to remove the ' LAST_18_HOURS_DATA ' datafile from Secure SADIS FTP.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The group will be aware that since its inception, the Secure SADIS FTP service has provided a file, updated on an hourly basis, of the last 18 hours worth of data. This file was also provided on the now withdrawn 'classic' SADIS FTP service.

2.2 The original intent of this file (for the 'classic' SADIS FTP service) is not explicitly recorded, but is understood to have been provided in order to permit users to conveniently populate their databases on first start up, or on re-boot.

2.3 However, over the last decade, the data content of Secure SADIS FTP (and the classic SADIS FTP before it) has increased significantly. In addition, with the expectation that XML/GML and enhanced WAFS products will become available on the service in coming years, the data volumes will continue to increase. This will result in the ' LAST_18_HOURS_DATA ' datafile, becoming very large. Currently it is typically of the order 200MB.

2.4 It is also considered that simply downloading the last 18 hours worth of data is inefficient. SADIS Workstation software providers, and those developing bespoke software should be able to develop more elegant and efficient processes to populate databases on initial start up or on re-boot. For example, they could explicitly poll the GRIB2 and SIGWX folders for the most recent/still valid GRIB2 and WAFS SIGWX data. Alternatively, the software could simply poll the 5 minute files in the 'ALL' directory to extract all data for up to 36 hours if necessary. This last point is relevant since in essence the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' file is actually redundant – the same data (and more) is contained in the 'ALL' folder.

2.5 The size of the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' datafile can also make its download time somewhat excessive – approximately 50 minutes at current volumes of 200MB. As noted in 2.4 more efficient strategies can be implemented to initially populate databases.

3. IMPACT ON USERS

3.1 The impact on users if the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' was to be removed is considered to be minimal:

- Only 5 users in the 6 months ending 26 July 2015 downloaded the file. With one exception these were single instances of downloads.
- No SADIS Workstation Providers (to 11 August 2015) had raised any objection to removal of the file, and the evidence from above shows that their systems are not – by default at least – set to download the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' datafile.

3.2 It is therefore proposed that 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' data file be removed effective 1200 UTC 31 August 2016. This will give sufficient notice to those users who – on the evidence – access this data on rare occasions.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 Removal of the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' file from Secure SADIS FTP.

4.1.1 In light of the foregoing information the meeting is invited to formulate the following draft Conclusion;

Conclusion 1/xx Removal of the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' file from Secure SADIS FTP

That, the SADIS Provider be invited to remove the 'LAST_18_HOURS_DATA' file from Secure SADIS FTP, to be effective 1200 UTC 12 August 2016.

Note: - Notice of this change to be given to the WAFS Change Implementation Notice Board, SADIS Workstation suppliers, and also via SADIS Administrative message (NOUK10 EGRR).

5. ACTION BY THE METP-WG/MOG

5.1 The METP-WG/MOG is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) decide on the draft conclusion proposed for the group's consideration.

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