

Fourth User Forum of the Baltic Sea Weather Radar project

BALTRAD +

On Friday 22nd November 2013, the BALTRAD+ partnership will celebrate its achievements at its User Forum IV at the Hotel Crowne Plaza in Berlin, Germany. The Fourth User Forum will focus on achievements and lessons, giving an overview of practical experiences and the future of BALTRAD.

Weather forecasts that warn of hazardous conditions, e.g. snow storms or floods, help save lives and property. Accurate and timely forecasts also help optimize activities for several sectors of the economy. Weather radar systems are capable of monitoring rain, snow, hail, and wind over large geographical areas with high resolution in both time and space. Several weather radar systems can be networked to cover countries, regions, and even continents.

The BALTRAD partnership has delivered the world's first international weather radar network supporting the exchange and processing of data from the latest generation of advanced radar technology; the developments have been elaborated in the extension project BALTRAD+. Through hard work and outstanding performance, the BALTRAD toolbox has been deployed operationally by EUMETNET OPERA's radar data centre Odyssey to perform quality control on input data prior to the generation of continental-scale composite products. These products are used e.g. in research and pilot project HAREN (Hazard Assessment based on Rainfall European Nowcasts).

The BALTRAD project team consists of partners in Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Belarus, Germany, Denmark, and Norway. During 2013, the Partnership has expanded in an exciting new direction, with the introduction of new partners in Russia and Ukraine.

Practical experiences will be presented at the Fourth User Forum of how BALTRAD+ has supported weather forecasting, radiation and nuclear safety, aviation, disaster management and urban water management. The session on the 21st November is technically oriented providing assistance to those that are already using the BALTRAD software package or want to experience how the system works and performs. The 22nd November is fully user-oriented, presents practical applications and demonstrates how BALTRAD can benefit end users. The programme is available from the project website www.baltrad.eu.

baltrad+  press release

The result of the initial project BALTRAD was a software providing real-time high-quality data with demonstrated value for end-users. This software has been produced according to Open Source principles, and is available publicly at <http://git.baltrad.eu/>.

Further information on BALTRAD and BALTRAD+ will be available on www.baltrad.eu.

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