Introduction to the
WIGOS Station Identifiers (WSI)

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World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Outline

I. Introduction to the WIGOS Station Identifiers (WSI)

II. Procedures for assigning WSI

III. Recommendations from the Task Team on WSI

IV. Final remarks

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Recap on the basics of the WIGOS Station IDs (1)

- The WSI is an element of the WIGOS Metadata Standard: the "Station/platform unique identifier, 3-06" [WMO-No.1192]

- Members are requested to implement WSIs following the:
  - WMO Technical Regulations (WMO-No.49) - Regulatory material
  - Manual on WIGOS (WMO-No.1160) - Regulatory material
  - Guide to WIGOS (WMO-No.1165) - Guidance material

- New editions of the Technical Regulations and the Manual on WIGOS have been approved by Congress-18, June 2019 soon to are available – to enter in force in July 2020.

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Recap on the basics of the WSIs (2)

1st block (number)	2nd block (number)	3rd block (number)	4th block (character)
WIGOS Identifier Series	**Issuer of Identifier**	**Issue number**	**Local Identifier**
Allows future expansion	Allows to distinguish between identifiers issued by different organizations	Allows sub-delegation	Allocated to station
0	0…65534	0…65534	16 characters

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Example of a WIGOS Station ID (3)

WIGOS Identifier **Series** (number)	**Issuer** of Identifier (number)	Issue **Number** (number)	Local **Identifier** (characters)
0	20000	0	63740

Example of station Jomo Kenyatta Airport, Nairobi, Kenya

It is written as: **0-20000-0-63740**

Please note that:
- WSIs should not have meaning in themselves
- Users must not interpret any patterns they see in WIGOS IDs
- Users should use OSCAR/surface to look up the metadata for the station associated with the WIGOS Station Identifier.

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General requirements for assigning WSIs (1)

- Members **shall**:
  - issue WSIs for stations/platforms within their geographic area of responsibility that contribute to a WMO or co-sponsored programme
  - ensure that no WSI is issued to more than one station
  - make available to WMO the updated metadata each time a new WSI is issued

- Members should (before issuing a station identifier):
  - ensure that the operator of a station/platform has committed to providing and maintaining WIGOS metadata for that station/platform

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General requirements for assigning WSIs (2)

- Each observing station must have **at least one WIGOS ID** associated with it

- **Observing stations that have identifiers from a WMO Programme**:
  - may continue to use those, they are not required to have additional identifiers created
  - if a station take on new responsibility the WIGOS ID can also be used in the new context

- **It is possible for a station to be associated with more than one WIGOS identifier**, but it is **desirable to associate as few identifiers as possible**.
  - if a station is already associated with a WIGOS ID, or is associated with an ID issued by a WMO or partner programme, an additional WIGOS ID should not be issued

- Do you need to take into account the type of station for assigning WSI? **No**!

- How do you describe the type of station, the Programme affiliation, the variables observed, the instruments used, etc => **GO to OSCAR/Surface**!

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Table "*ISO 3166-1 numeric code*"
(https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#search)

Online Browsing Platform (OBP)

Sign in   ▶ Language   ▶ Help   Search

ISO   🏠 Search   🔍 Search results ✕

249 results for [   ] 🔍 ✕

Sort by: | English short name ▲ | French short name | Alpha-2 code | Alpha-3 code | Numeric code | Results per page: [25 ▼]

✕ Country codes ✕ Officially assigned codes

Standards
Collections
Publications
Graphical symbols
Terms & Definitions
Country codes   249

Code type   ▲
Officially assigne...   249
Other codes

Previous 1 2 3 **4** 5 6 7 8 9 10 Next

For definition of the different code types, please click here   ☐ Follow

English short name ▲	French short name	Alpha-2 code	Alpha-3 code	Numeric
France	France (la)	FR	FRA	250
French Guiana	Guyane française (la)	GF	GUF	254
French Polynesia	Polynésie française (la)	PF	PYF	258
French Southern Territories (the)	Terres australes françaises (les)	TF	ATF	260
Gabon	Gabon (le)	GA	GAB	266
Gambia (the)	Gambie (la)	GM	GMB	270
Georgia	Géorgie (la)	GE	GEO	268
Germany	Allemagne (l')	DE	DEU	276
Ghana	Ghana (le)	GH	GHA	288
Gibraltar	Gibraltar	GI	GIB	292
Greece	Grèce (la)	GR	GRC	300
Greenland	Groenland (le)	GL	GRL	304
Grenada	Grenade (la)	GD	GRD	308
Guadeloupe	Guadeloupe (la)	GP	GLP	312
Guam	Guam	GU	GUM	316
Guatemala	Guatemala (le)	GT	GTM	320
Guernsey	Guernesey	GG	GGY	831
Guinea	Guinée (la)	GN	GIN	324
Guinea-Bissau	Guinée-Bissau (la)	GW	GNB	624
Guyana	Guyana (le)	GY	GUY	328
Haiti	Haïti	HT	HTI	332
Heard Island and McDonald Islands	Heard-et-Îles MacDonald (l'Île)	HM	HMD	334
Holy See (the)	Saint-Siège (le)	VA	VAT	336
Honduras	Honduras (le)	HN	HND	340
Hong Kong	Hong Kong	HK	HKG	344

Previous 1 2 3 **4** 5 6 7 8 9 10 Next

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Proposed new structure (1)

- There is currently complete freedom for Members to define their own schema

- Propose that the following constraints are imposed:
  - **Issue number (3rd block) to have common slots reserved for different types of organizations, e.g. 0-9 for NMHS, 10-19 for other public organizations,**

- Details of exactly which characters are allowed in the 3rd block are available in the Manual and in the Guide to WIGOS

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Dual inclusion of WMO ID and WSI in BUFR messages (2)

- **Notice** period for transition from traditional WMO to new WSI in BUFR to be from **6-3 months in advance**

- Due to the structure of the BUFR message, the **old and the new identifier will continue to be transmitted** together

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Documentation of WSI schemas (3)

- To ensure the preservation of the long term record, documentation shall be preserved in perpetuity

- Global data centres are ideally placed to offer this, such as the GMDC in Asheville

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Test environment (4)

- Under leadership by ECMWF, voluntary Members to provide test data that includes WSI, initially currently using an FTP site

- Several Members (Brazil, Argentina, Switzerland) are contributing; Other Members considering joining the experiment; Israel is already sending BUFR reports with WSI

- Initially planned to run from October to December 2018, at the request of various Members, ECMWF agreed to extend it (no end date - TBD)

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WSI Transition Plan (5)

Themes:
1 - Identification of issues to be addressed by Members
2 - Advice and tools for members to address issues
3 - Testing environment
4 - Resolving issues with exchange of information

Structure of the Plan
- A) Background
- B) Objectives
- C) Timescale (~2 years)
- D) Approach
- E) Tasks, Activities and Responsibilities
- F) Communication & outreach
- G) Project Management and Risks

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Final remarks (with request for homework!)

- The **National Focal Points for OSCAR/Surface have** a critical and increased role in implementing the WSIs at national level, in cooperation with WIGOS National Focal Points

- All participants are strongly encouraged to:
  - Consider the recommendations from TT-WSI including
    - participation at the WSI **experiment with ECMWF**
    - reviewing and contributing to the WSI transition plan
  - Work with the OSCAR/Surface and WIGOS NFPs towards **developing a national schema** for assigning WIGOS IDs
  - Provide feedback to the Secretariat, via the WIGOS Project Office (https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/wigos)
  - Contribute and enhance engagement with the OSCAR/Surface Resources Portal: http://etrp.wmo.int/moodle/course/view.php?id=146

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Thank you

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https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/wigos

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