Weather & Oceanographic Forecasting for the Offshore Industry

The safest, most efficient and cost effective use of resources during offshore operations is only fully realised with advanced knowledge of climate, weather and oceanographic conditions. OWS provides its clients with that knowledge.
TECHNICAL RESOURCES

OWS understands that only the latest forecasting technologies and techniques are required to ensure sophisticated forecast products are delivered in a timely manner to our clients. OWS achieves this by utilising:

- Global atmospheric models from all the major meteorological agencies in the world used as the basis for multi-model ensemble forecasts.
- High resolution atmospheric modelling for near shore locations or sites affected by local conditions not adequately modelled by lower resolution global models.
- Global and high-resolution atmospheric modelling to drive our in-house latest generation global ocean wave models, producing several independent wave model outputs for our client locations.
- Real time high-resolution satellite imagery from geostationary satellites to determine the position and intensity of tropical cyclones, squalls and other severe weather events.
- Real time data including worldwide bulletins, surface weather reports from land and ships, metocean buoys, upper atmospheric reports, client observations, weather radar and satellite telemetry providing global ocean wind and wave conditions.
- Data assimilation by experienced marine meteorologists, giving the most complete and comprehensive picture of the weather affecting your operations.

EXPERIENCE

OWS has the experienced personnel and resources to ensure the most accurate weather forecasts are received and utilised by client operational staff. OWS achieves this by:

- Providing assistance with daily planning and advice for critical ‘go/no go’ decisions during offshore drilling, construction, production and emergency evacuation.
- Employing duty forecasters with extensive marine forecasting experience and utilising senior forecasters with on site offshore experience during critical operations around the globe. On site meteorologists provide up-to-the-minute predictions and briefings during critical and weather sensitive offshore projects.
- Maintaining a close relationship with leading Australian academic atmospheric and wave modelling experts.
- Developing, operating and maintaining forecasting techniques and office procedures under ISO 9001:2008 standards.

"A huge thanks from all here at the project. Your forecasts have been superb and relied upon to make informed decisions. I appreciate that at times we have had you under pressure and your forecasters have come through with the goods as required. Please thank all forecasters for their diligence, on time reporting and accurate models. Thanks to all others at OWS who have made a significant contribution to what ended up being a mega project. MMA Offshore will certainly consider the use of your excellent services in the future should they be required."

Marine Superintendent, MMA Offshore, January 2015
SERVICES

- Accurate and timely forecasts tailored for the offshore industry. Up to 16 day forecasts with high spatial and temporal resolution wind and wave data.
- 24-hour access to experienced meteorologists, remote or on location, who fully understand the offshore industry.
- Detailed weather briefing and consultation with operational personnel during critical operations.
- Demobilisation / mobilisation advice during tropical cyclone threats.
- Consultation during planning stages of client operations, assisting in development of evacuation procedures for tropical cyclone threats and other extreme weather events.
- Surface and sub-surface ocean current information for site specific and route requirements.
- Climate and oceanographic studies for all requirements and phases of the offshore life cycle, from due diligence and pre-qualification to exploration seismic, site surveys, exploration and appraisal drilling, through to development and production.

PRODUCTS

- Text and graphic presentation of wind, wave, swell and other weather conditions for specific locations tailored to client requirements.
- High spatial and temporal resolution WRF atmospheric model forecasts.
- Up to 7 day site specific and tow route forecasts, 10 day guidance forecasts and 16 day long term outlooks.
- Tropical cyclone analysis and forecast tracks.
- High resolution tropical cyclone wave prediction.
- Squall forecasting, tracking and warning using WRF high resolution forecasts, satellite imagery and radar (where available).
- Aviation weather forecasts tailored to client location, flight path and altitude requirements.
- Satellite imagery specific to client operational areas.
- Synoptic analysis and prognosis wind and wave charts prepared by experienced meteorologists.
- Surface and sub-surface ocean current forecasts.
- Tide height information.
- Detailed studies of weather, wave and oceanographic conditions for rig selection, design criteria and weather downtime estimates.
- Real time client weather and wave buoy instrumentation data assimilation and analysis.
- Wave model spectral output for vessel motion response prediction.
- Weather station and oceanographic hardware deployment for monitoring winds, waves, and ocean currents in real-time.
- All products delivered directly to offshore operations via email & web solutions tailored to client bandwidth capabilities.
- 365/24/7 access to duty forecasters.

Keep up the good work with the forecasting. Accurate weather forecasts allow us to forward plan our operation to account for likely future weather conditions and I am under no illusions that they allow me to save money by being able to anticipate possible disruptions due to weather and adjust the plans to minimize or eradicate any disruption.

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