

ADDENDUM - NOTE OF CAUTION ON THE USE OF TABLE 12.1

FROM THE

INSTRUMENTS AND OBSERVING METHODS REPORT No. 107

WMO INTERCOMPARISON OF HIGH QUALITY RADIOSONDE SYSTEMS
Yangjiang, China, 12 July - 3 August 2010

WMO/TD-No. 1580
2011

The data displayed in Table 12.1 should be interpreted with particular caution. As stated in Paragraph 13.1.1 of the report: *"It is recommended that the suitable radiosondes for the GUAN network would score at least an overall category 4 for the important climate variables in Table 12.1. This can then be used to guide procurement of suitable systems."*

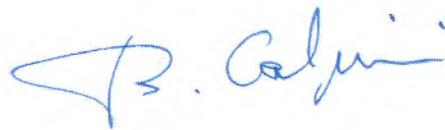
A particular radiosonde should not be eliminated from consideration in a procurement process simply because it scored less than 4 against an individual row of Table 12.1. Ultimately, selection of the optimal radiosonde for a particular purpose should depend both on the particular data needs to be provided for, on the unit price, and on other factors noted in Section 13.1.2 of the report, such as the reliability of the supplier, the long term reliability of production, and the level of operational back-up support provided by the manufacturer.

It should also be kept in mind that the data displayed in Table 12.1 are for the radiosondes that participated at Yangjiang only, and represent the performance of those radiosondes at that time and location. Since the intercomparison, the performance of some of these radiosondes may have been improved by their manufacturers, and other radiosondes that did not participate at Yangjiang may have been shown to perform just as well. In selecting a particular radiosonde to purchase from the many available on the market today, it is recommended that an open tender approach is adopted for the procurement process, and that a wide literature search, of peer-reviewed articles or independent reports, is made to obtain updated performance information on different sonde types.



Tim Oakley

Chair of the International Organizing Committee
for
Upper-air Instrument Intercomparison (2008-2011)



Bertrand Calpini

President of CIMO