

What is AWOC ?

Discussions about portability of the ALADIN code to different platforms and problems linked to operational implementation are the main topic of the AWOC group.

2nd AWOC Meeting : an illtempered note from Claude Fischer

The 2nd AWOC meeting was organized besides the EWGLAM/SRNWP meetings in Copenhagen, October 5-9, 1998.

What is AWOC ? in the beginning, it was dedicated to "Aladin Workstation Coordination". Though this topic was rather general, it suited well the needs of many services which had preliminary ALADIN installations and no operational duties. Indeed, AWOC might then have been a good forum for exchanging knowledge and tools for workstation implementations.

Unfortunately, AWOC remained in a rather "spectral" shape without any real existence.

A new start is therefore proposed, based on the discussions of the last AWOC meetings (last February in Toulouse first and also during EWGLAM in Copenhagen, October 6th, 1998). In a somewhat pioneering effort, a set of Aladin concerned persons redefined slightly the goals of AWOC.

Portability remains a major topic of AWOC, but it is now extended to every platform: workstations, Cray-computers etc.. and to operations related problems. To make the coordination and the contacts as easy as possible, a specific awoc mailing list (awoc++at++meteo.fr) has been created under the Toulouse majordomo system, which allows also for keeping a historical traceback. In a more general sense, AWOC will treat specific problems linked with operational implementations as well: installation of new versions, new setups and namelists, installation of new tools ...

This issue has become more important since several services are now running quasi-operational Aladin forecasts.

Some points have been discussed in detail during the last AWOC meeting:

- e923: several countries wish to run their own climatological tasks; it was proposed to put at disposal a set of e923 scripts on the Fujitsu, so that every country can run the configuration on this machine. The scripts used for the last change in clim files (November 19th) are already available on delage machine. New simpler scripts and a documentation will be provided with the next cycle (AL10), which will solve the identified remaining problems in E923. A workstation version and the associated tools will also be available at that time. Thanks to Gabor Radnoti, Tamas Szabo, Mehdi El Abed, Neva Pristov, Jaouad Boutahar and Patrick Le Moigne.
- another mailing list has been defined, dedicated to a wider talk and exchange of information between all the Aladin operators among the world. This "alabobo" list (ALADIN Best Of Brave Operators) is dedicated to the exchange of practical questions concerning operational or platform-related problems. The idea is that somebody sends his question like a bottled message to the sea, and hopefully gets the answer from at least one correspondent.
- LACE has created a half-post "Aladin/LACE System Coordinator" (ASC), who will help for creating new export versions. The task is temporarily shared by Radmila Bubnova and Maria Siroka.
- Eric Sevault, representing the cyclists, has presented the latest versions of the code: xrd08 and xrd19 for the auxiliary library and AL09+bugfix 3 for the model. Misfunctions and bugs, found at an early stage, should be reported via the "awoc" list. Later on, they could travel via

the "alabobo" list.

The AWOC meeting was closed during dinner in a nice Copenhagen restaurant, a situation which underlines very impressively the strong will of the AWOC people to continue this collaboration.