

ANNEX TO EUROCONTROL GUIDANCE NOTE 4

AERODROME FORECAST - TAF



The following TAF is illustrated in the table below.

TAF EGSS 130500Z 1307/1316 31015G25KT 8000 -SHRA FEW005 SCT010 SCTO18CB BKN025 PROB30 1314/1316 TSRA BKN010CB

CODE ELEMENT	EXAMPLE	DECODE	NOTES
Report Type	TAF	Terminal Aerodrome Forecast	
Location	EGSS	London Stansted	ICAO 4-letter indicator
Date/time of origin	130500Z	13th at 0500 UTC	May be omitted
Date/time of validity	1307/1316	Valid from 0700 to 1600 UTC on 13th	UTC = GMT
Surface Wind direction & speed	31015G25KT	From 310° True at 15kt, maximum 25 kt	VRB = variable 0000KT = calm
Visibility	8000	Prevailing (average) visibility 8 km	9999 = 10 km or more / 0000 = less than 50 m.
Significant Weather	-SHRA	Light Rain Showers	See decode below NSW = no significant weather
Cloud	FEW005 SCT010 SCTO18CB BKN025	Few at 500 ft Scattered at 1000 ft Scattered cumulonimbus at 1800 ft Broken at 2500 ft	See decode below. Cloud heights in ft above airfield height
Significant Changes	PROB30	30% probability	TEMPO = temporarily may be used separately or together with PROB
Period of change	1314/1316	From 1400 to 1600 on 13th	BECMG = becoming / FM = from
Weather during change	TSRA BKN010CB	Thunderstorms and rain broken cumulonimbus at 1000 ft	

CAVOK = visibility greater or equal to 10 km, no cumulonimbus (CB) or towering cumulus (TCU), no cloud below 5000 ft or highest MSA (greater) and no weather significant to aviation.

WEATHER DECODE

+ = Heavy (well developed in the case of +FC and +PO); - = Light; no qualifier = Moderate.

BC=Patches	BL=Blowing	BR=Mist	DR=Drifting
DS=Duststorm	DU=Dust	DZ=Drizzle	FC=Funnel cloud
FG=Fog	FU=Smoke	FZ=Freezing	GR=Hail (>5mm)
GS=Soft hail or snow pellets	HZ=Haze	IC=Ice crystals	MI=Shallow
PL=Ice pellets	PO=Dust devils	PR=Banks	RA=Rain
SA=Sand	SH=Showers	SG=Snow grains	SN=Snow
SQ=Squalls	SS=Sandstorm	TS=Thunderstorm	VA=Volcanic ash
VC=In vicinity			

Up to three groups may be present, constructed by selecting and combining from the above. Group omitted if no weather to report.

Cloud Decode

SKC = sky clear; FEW = 1-2 oktas; SCT = 3-4 oktas; BKN = 5-7 oktas; OVC = 8 oktas;

'///' = state of sky obscured (figures after '///' will give forecast vertical visibility in hundred of feet)

NSC = no significant cloud (none below 5,000 feet and no CB or TCU- the only cloud types specified)

AERODROME ACTUAL WEATHER - METAR AND SPECI

The following METAR is illustrated in the table below.

METAR EGLL 291020Z 31015G27KT 280V350 3200 1200SW R27 R/1100 +SHRA FEW005 SCT010 SCTO18CB BKN025 10/03 Q0995 RETS WS RWY24 BECMG FM1100 23035G50KT TEMPO FM0630 TL 0830 3000 SHRA

CODE ELEMENT	EXAMPLE	DECODE	NOTES
Report Type	METAR	METAR	METAR - Meteorological Airfield Report, SPECI - selected special
Location	EGLL	London Heathrow	ICAO 4-letter indicator
Date/Time	291020Z	29 th at 1020 UTC	May be omitted AUTO = report by automated system
Surface Wind direction & speed	31015G27KT	310°/15 kt maximum 27 kt	VRB = variable 0000KT = calm
	280V350	Varying between 280° and 350°	May be added if wind direction is variable
Visibility	3200	3200 m	9999 = 10 km or more / 0000 = less than 50 m.
	1200SW	Minimum visibility 1200 m. to the SW	Minimum visibility may be included
RVR	R27R/1100	RVR runway 26R 1100	
Present weather	+SHRA	Heavy rain showers	See decode overleaf
Cloud	FEW005	Few at 500 ft	See decode overleaf.
	SCT010	Scattered at 1000 ft	Cloud heights in ft above airfield height
	SCTO18CB	Scattered cumulonimbus at 1800 ft	
	BKN025	Broken at 2500 ft	
Temperature and Dewpoint	10/03	Temperature 10° C Dewpoint 03°C	M = negative value
	Q0995	995	Sea level pressure in Hpa If A is used, QNH is in inches
Recent Weather	RETS	Recent thunderstorms	RE = recent See decode below for weather
Wind shear	WS RWY24	Wind shear on runway 24	May not be reported
Trend	BECMG	Becoming from 1100, 230°/35kt,	BECMG = becoming
	FM1100	maximum 50 kt, temporarily from	TEMPO = temporarily
	23035G50KT	0630 until 0830 3000 m.	NOSIG = no significant change
	TEMPO	moderate rain showers	NSW = no significant weather
	FM0630 TL		AT = at
	0830 3000		FM = from
SHRA		TL = until	NSC = no significant cloud

CAVOK = visibility greater or equal to 10 km, no cumulonimbus, no cloud below 5000 ft or highest MSA (greater) and no weather significant to aviation.

For present weather and cloud decode, see overleaf

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