



SAME



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Accreditation of Meteorologists and of meteorological Companies in Germany

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Abstract

Since 1989, the German Meteorological Society (DMG) uses a scheme for accreditation of Meteorologists what is approved by DMG Council and member's assembly. A Committee consisting of three appropriately qualified scientists is appointed by the Council to deal with applications and the tri-annual re-evaluations. Currently, individual weather forecasters are not eligible for licensing because, up to now, a decision about a set of regulations concerning this group has not been made. However, DMG has approved 17 chartered meteorologists. Nearly all are working in the field of climate or environmental meteorology.

Even though there is no DMG-regulation with respect to individual meteorologists working as forecasters, in 1999, DMG founded a Quality Circle open for meteorological **companies** active in weather forecasting. During the first half of the year 2000, three applications were made. In one case the membership in this Quality Circle has been granted, the other two are being processed. DMG assumes that more companies will apply.

What follows is a brief excerpt from the regulations concerning "Chartered Meteorologists" and the "Quality Circle" of DMG:

Main rules concerning "Anerkannter Beratender Meteorologe = Chartered Meteorologist":

THE CHARTERED METEOROLOGIST

- is obliged to base his work on accepted scientific principles and to use scientifically accepted methods;
- is obliged to refrain from carrying out activities which are generally or predominantly considered to be detrimental or unacceptable for public benefit;
- is obliged to inform his customer prior to his task about its probable success to the best of his knowledge and conscience;
- is obliged to give no unjustified and /or exaggerated expertise.

**Quality Circle "Wetterberatung = Weather prediction and information"
of DMG for Companies
Minimum requirements**

- Use of relevant tools:

The necessary tools to obtain information for the various customers must be available: Results of weather prediction models, Radar composites, Satellite images, observational data etc.

- Adequate equipment with qualified personnel:

DMG expects that qualified personnel will be on duty holding a Diploma (= University level) and having several years of practical experience in weather prediction (at least three years). "Adequate" means that at least one such experienced meteorologist will have to be working per shift as responsible person in charge.

- Regular formation and participation in professional lectures:

The formation may not be restricted to routine shifts. Participation in lectures encompasses in taking courses as giving lectures. DMG thinks that formation is important and will become active in this field.

- Willingness to employ volunteers and trainees. Newcomers should be able to gain experience and to test their suitability for this field of work.
- The company has to be a corporate member of DMG.