THE NETHERLANDS - National deviations from the global regulations

Civil stations : **FM 15-XIV AUTO METAR** and **FM 15-XIV METAR**
Military stations : **FM 15-XIV AUTO METAR** and **FM 16-XIV AUTO SPECI**

Both CIVIL and MILITARY stations

15.4 With reference to fully automatically produced observations:
if any element cannot be observed, the group in which it would have been encoded shall be replaced by the appropriate number of solidi, in accordance with the table below.

Encoding of missing values in reports of AUTO METAR and AUTO SPECI – as of 18Nov2010

Code group	Reporting practice	Total number of solidi - remarks
1. Wind	///12KT	3 – wind direction information not available
2.	230//KT	2 – wind speed information not available
3.	/////KT	5 – wind speed and wind direction not available
4. Visibility	////	4 – visibility information not available
5. RVR	R////////	8 – RVR information not available; 1 group R//////// will replace all possible RVR groups
6.	R13/////	5 – RVR information not available for given touchdown zone; to be used when at least 1 other RVR value is available (in such case, R//////// cannot be used)
7. Present weather	//	2 – no PW sensor available or sensor defect; 1 group // will replace all possible present weather groups
8. Recent weather	RE//	2 – information on recent weather phenomena not available; 1 group RE// will replace all possible recent weather groups
9. Clouds	/////////	9 – no information on cloud amount, height and type; 1 group ///////// will replace all possible cloud groups
10.	BKN020///	3 – cloud type not available for given layer
11. *)	////// (/////CB)	6 – cloud amount and height not available; system is capable of detecting cloud type; 1 group ////// will replace all possible cloud groups
12.	BKN//////	6 – cloud height and type not available for given amount
13.	BKN/// (BKN///CB)	3 – cloud height not available; system is capable of detecting cloud type for the given cloud amount
14.	///020///	6 – cloud amount and type not available for given cloud height
15.	///020 (///020CB)	3 – cloud amount not available; system is capable of detecting cloud type for the given cloud height
16.	NCD	no clouds detected
17. **)	NSC	detected clouds are not operationally significant; system is capable of detecting cloud type
18. Air temperature and dewpunt temperature	/////	5 – air temperature and dewpunt temperature not available; replaced by **4** ////
19.	14///	3 – dewpunt temperature not available; replaced by **2** //
20.	///12	3 – air temperature not available; replaced by **2** //
21. Atmospheric pressure	Q////	4 – QNH information not available
22. Water temperature and sea state (North Sea platforms)	W/////	5 – water temperatuur not available; replaced by **2** // and sea state not available; replaced by **2** //
23.	W///S3	3 – water temperatuur not available; replaced by **2** //
24.	W17///	3 – sea state not available; replaced by **2** //

*) – Additional remark with reference to the table, point 11:

If the system is capable of detecting cloud type, but not to associate this type to a given cloud layer, two cases are possible:

1. If the system has not detected CB or TCU, cloud type is nevertheless considered as available For all cloud layers (the group of 3 /// is not added, as information about the absence of CB and TCU is available);
2. If the system has detected CB or TCU, an additional cloud group (//////CB or //////TCU) is included.

**) – Additional remark with reference to the table, point 17:

The abbreviation NSC shall not be used by the ROYAL AIR FORCE and the ROYAL NAVY.

15.8.9 In fully automatically generated reports, qualifier FZ shall only be used to report freezing fog (FZFG) in a situation with subzero temperatures (< 0° C) and a horizontal visibility of < 1000 meters, whether rime ice is deposited or not.
Fog types PRFG, BCFG, MIFG and VCFG can not be detected by the system.

15.9.2 In case of fog, the maximum reported value for $h_sh_sh_s$ shall be 500 ft.
In case of precipitation, the maximum reported value for $h_sh_sh_s$ shall be 1000 ft.

15.10 In fully automatically generated reports, the code word CAVOK shall not be used.

CIVIL stations only:

NOTES (1) Fully automated observation station **Vlissingen** (EHFS) is not an aeronautical station. It produces AUTO METAR's only (and no TREND).

15.8.9 In METAR (manned situation) the visible deposition of rime ice is used as an extra criterium. In a situation with subzero temperatures (< 0° C), observed rime ice and the fog types FG, PRFG and BCFG, qualifier FZ shall be used to report FZFG.
Shallow fog and any fog in the vicinity of the aerodrome shall always be reported as MIFG and VCFG respectively, whether rime ice is deposited or not.

15.14 Trend forecasts:

1. Visibility: an extra criterium of 8 km for the horizontal visibility shall be used.
2. Wind: a deviated criterium for the mean surface wind is:
   if the mean surface wind direction has changed by 30° or more and the mean speed before and/or after the change is 10 kts or more.

Stations of the ROYAL AIR FORCE and the ROYAL NAVY only

REMARK: The observations of all military stations are produced fully automatically.

15.7.1 During periods when either the horizontal visibility is observed to be less than 3700 metres or the runway visual range is less than 3000 metres, the group $RD_RD_R/V_RV_RV_RV_Ri$ shall be included in the report.

15.7.6 When the RVR is assessed to be more than 3000 metres, it shall be reported as P3000.

15.8.12 IC shall be reported when visibility is less than 10 km.

15.8.13 HZ shall be reported when visibility is less than 10 km.

15.8.14 BR shall be reported when visibility is less than 10 km but 1000 metres or more.

15.9.1.1 The abbreviation NSC shall not be used.
As appropriate, clouds present at and above 5000 ft, also shall be reported.

15.13.3 The wind shear groups WS RD_RD_R and WS ALL RWY shall not be used.

15.13.6 The state of the runway group $RD_RD_R/E_RC_Re_Re_RB_RB_R$ shall not be used.

15.14 Trend forecasts:

1. The stations of the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy shall use the 2-ATAF weather colour code, together with the change groups without a time group.
2. Also, a CIVIL TREND forecast shall be added to the report, directly after the 2-ATAF weather colour code.

2-ATAF WEATHER COLOUR CODE

Colour code		Visibility	Cloud base
Blue	BLU	8 km of more	2500 ft or more
White	WHT	5 km - 8 km	1500 ft - 2500 ft
Green	GRN	3.7 km - 5 km	700 ft - 1500 ft
Yellow	YLO	1.6 km - 3.7 km	300 ft - 700 ft
Amber	AMB	0.8 km - 1.6 km	200 ft - 300 ft
Red	RED	Less than 0.8 km	Less than 200 ft
BLACK		Aerodrome not in use due to other reasons than visibility and cloud base	