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European Ice Service EIS

Stockholm, October 20, 2009
Helge Tangen, Regional Director



EIS-European Ice Services

In November 2007, the EIS MoU was signed by
FMI – Finnish Meteorological
Institute

DMI- Denmark Meteorological
Institute

met.no – Norwegian Meteorological
Institute

In May 2008, the MoU was also signed by
SMHI – Swedish Meteorological and
Hydrological Institute



Background



- The partners are the national ice services of governmental organisations responsible for operational ice services of their countries
- Together the partners cover the Arctic and the Baltic Seas
- 4 small services = stronger together



Strategy

It is the strategy of EIS to cooperate on and harmonize:

- Production of daily analysis of sea ice parameters in order to improve operational ice monitoring and forecasting;
- Introducing new services complementing traditional ice services tailored to meet user requirements in their operations;
- Validation + user-friendly info system



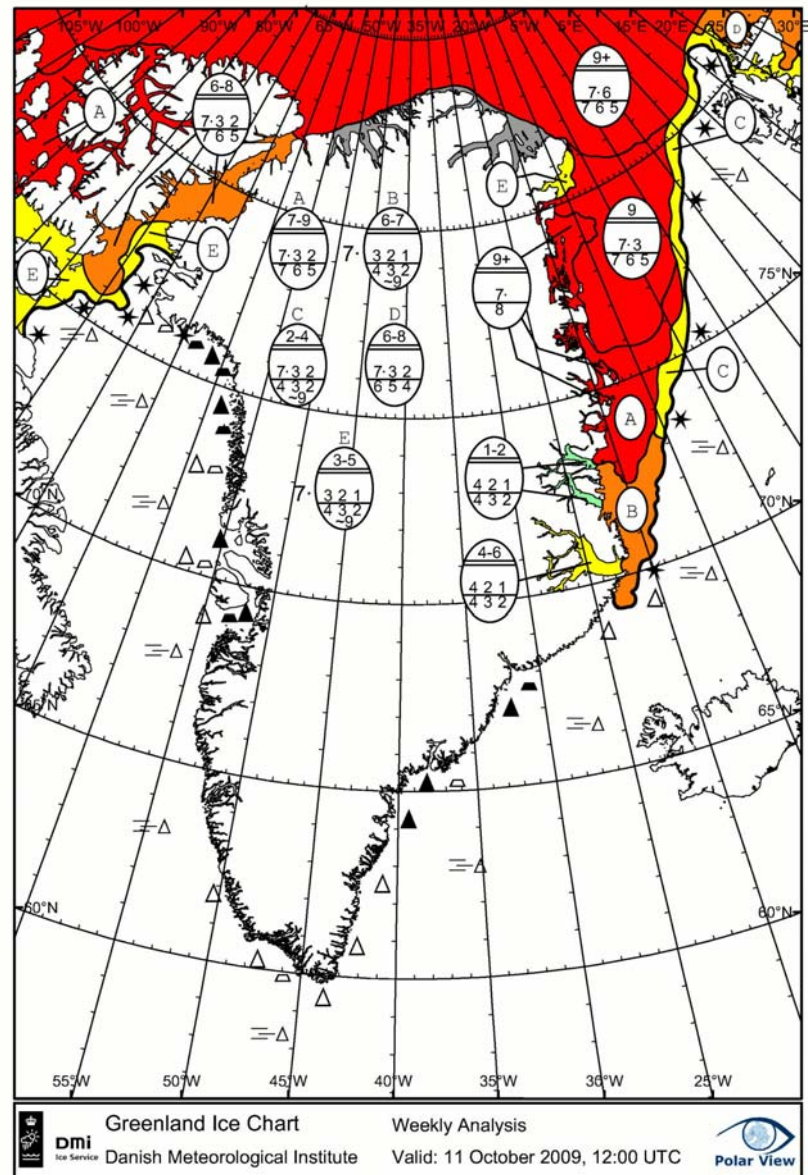
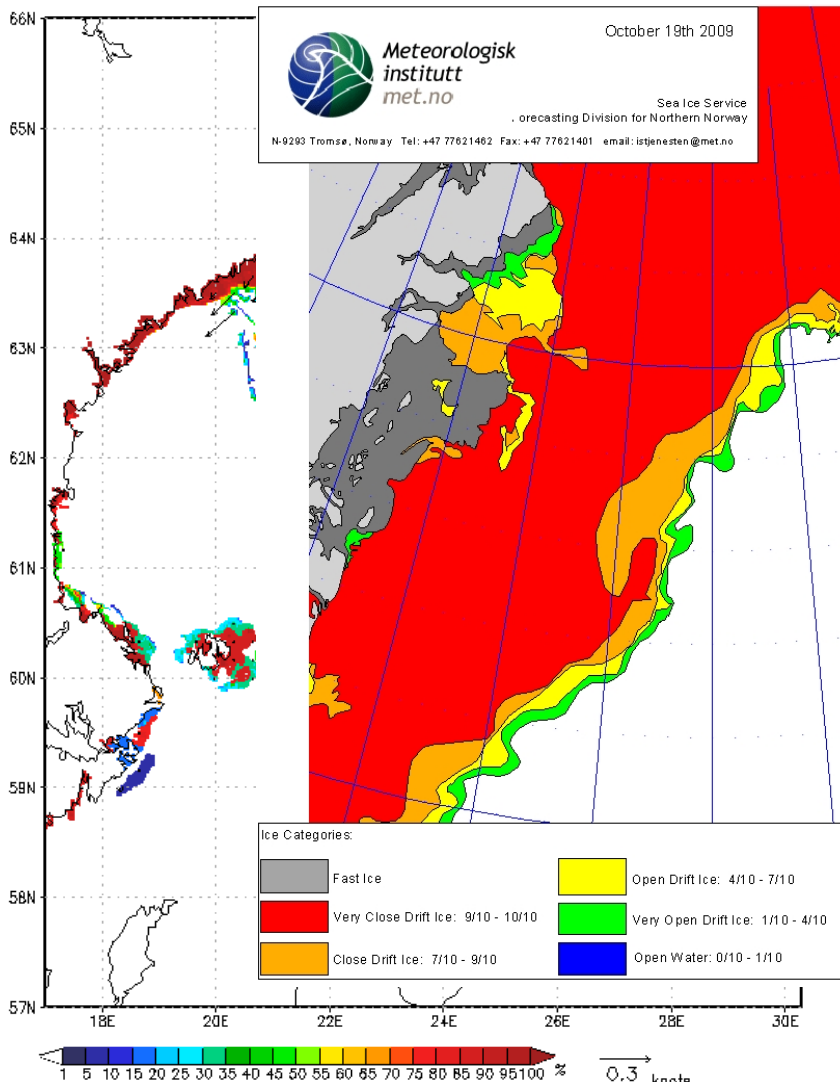
Organisation and management



- Board with one representative from each member.
- Board meets minimum 2 times yearly
- Workshops including all levels of staff proposes projects to the Board

Where we are

FMI ICE FORECAST 2009:3:10:7 UTC
t+0 : 2009:3:10:7 UTC, ice concentration and drift





Where we want to go

18.10.2009 12:00 UTC OSI_HL_S1



EUMETSAT-
supported
production
of sea ice
products
directly
from
satellites



How do we get there

- Targeted work – common understanding
- Support from users – a long-served user group is present
- Use opportunities for common projects



Scope of co-operation

- The scope of co-operative activities extends to areas such as
 - Observations
 - Data and product management
 - Product development
 - Development of production system
 - Education & Training
 - Common approach to proposals in EU programs



Ice services needs

- Good spatial and temporal satellite coverage
 - Improved a lot last few years
 - Expectations for continuous operation of favourable instruments (Radar)
- Reliable satellite operation and data processing
 - Secured for MyOcean participants
- Ice services the biggest users in volume for Sentinel 1 data



Activities, examples

- Letter to ESA to announce the EIS existence - positive feedback
- Input to EU's Arctic communicate -launched last winter
- On the review team for Sentinel Ground Segment
- Reporting to NORDMET, all nordic Directors for NMHS's



Lessons learnt 2 first years

- Things Take Time
- Involving all layers of staff is positive
- No lack of ideas
- No budget = Difficult when external consultants would be helpful (e.g. website)
- Meetings/workshops crucial for momentum
- Positive feedback from several organisations