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Destructive winds in the Czech Republic

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Abstract
Strong destructive winds in central Europe occurs as a consequence of high pressure gradient, crossing fronts or summer thunderstorms. Contribution summarize three recent destructive wind storms Kyrril, Emma and Johanna that affected the Czech Republic in last three years. All of them were caused by high pressure gradient between low in north and high in south of Europe. Some other historical events in the Czech Republic (Sumava Mts. In 1870) and in Slovakia (1965, Tatry 2004) are also introduced.
Evaluation of number of days with wind gust (equal or higher than 60 km per hour, 17 m/s respectively) for period of 1980 to 2004 was done for selected stations in the Czech Republic. Results proved increase of wind gust days in lowlands 250 - 450 a.s.l. with significance on 95 %. Subjectively also the stress on meteorologist – forecaster from media has increased after Kyrril significantly both in demand on frequency and amount of information as well as in the timeliness of the media awareness.

Keyworlds: destructive winds, wind gust, Czech Republic