

A forecaster's guidance of customers using 30 days ensemble forecast products.

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Nowadays, many commercial companies see an economic potential in using 30 days (i.e. monthly) ensemble forecast products in the planning of near future activities. At the Danish Meteorological Institute, DMI, we supply such costumers with a broad suite of the ensemble forecast products provided by the ECMWF.

These types of customers are often very experienced users of meteorological products already, but as monthly ensemble forecast products can be difficult to interpret and use even for skilled forecasters, it adds much value to the service if the delivery of these products is accompanied by a thorough guidance by a forecaster that is trained and experienced in this particular field.

Therefore DMI provides customers buying monthly forecasts the option to supplement the graphical products with a live phone consultation with a forecaster.

The role of that forecaster is partly to help the customer to interpret and understand the current forecast at hand. But what is more important is that the forecaster uses his knowledge and experience to add further value to the service with subjective analysis of things like the reliability of latest model runs, the possible changes in upcoming model runs and the most likely outcomes of different scenarios.

The service is currently used mainly by energy traders, and the briefings therefore focus on their needs. And to them it's actually of greater importance to get an idea of the reliability of a given forecast and what future forecasts can be expected to look like, more than to just know the exact forecast in itself.

A presentation will be given of some of the products that are supplied to the customers, as well as examples of how the forecaster through his briefing adds further value to the service provided by DMI.