



## The ESSL Testbed

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A growing range of tools is steadily becoming available for weather forecasters as a basis for their forecasts and warnings. These are, however, not always used optimally, because of a lack of interaction between their developers and the forecasters. Additionally, there is very little international exchange of “best practices” of forecasting rare, extreme weather events.

The ESSL Testbed brings together forecasters and developers from across the world. In a quasi-operational setting with a focus on severe weather, developers present and explain their tools, forecasters give feedback, and the tools can be tested in a quasi-operational forecasting environment. The Testbed participants jointly prepare experimental forecasts and learn from renowned international forecasting experts during a five-week long period at the ESSL Training Center in Wiener Neustadt, Austria.

We will report on the first edition of the ESSL Testbed, carried out in June and July 2012, and present plans for the 2013 Testbed.