



## **The UK Met Office Light Unmanned Aircraft System (LUAS)**

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A Light Unmanned Aircraft System (LUAS) recently developed at the UK Met Office Research Unit, Cardington, is described. The platform is based on a Bormatec 'Maja' airframe fitted with a Skycircuits SC2 autopilot. This platform has a payload of 1.5kg. The meteorological measurements are made using a Met Office designed data acquisition system, currently configured for temperature, relative humidity and pressure. Wind data is retrieved from the SC2 autopilot system. Data is logged locally on board the LUAS and also passed to the SC2 autopilot for transmission to a ground station via a radio link, allowing for real-time monitoring of the meteorology on the ground. Updated flight plans and instantaneous commands may be sent from the ground station to the autopilot using the same radio link. Details and illustrations of the LUAS are presented, along with some preliminary results.