

Operational forecasting with AMPS at Davis Station, East Antarctica

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Davis Station in East Antarctica is a major base for the Australian Antarctic Division operations with both fixed and rotary wing aircraft operating during the extended summer season of November to March. Typical operations include trans-continental flights to Mawson and Casey Stations, as well as to field camps in the Larsemann Hills, Prince Charles Mountains, the Amery Ice Shelf and the West Ice Shelf.

Weather conditions play a critical role in these operations and for several years there have been forecasters stationed at Davis during the summer season. AMPS is one of the major tools used by the summer forecasters. Some strengths and weaknesses of AMPS are described.