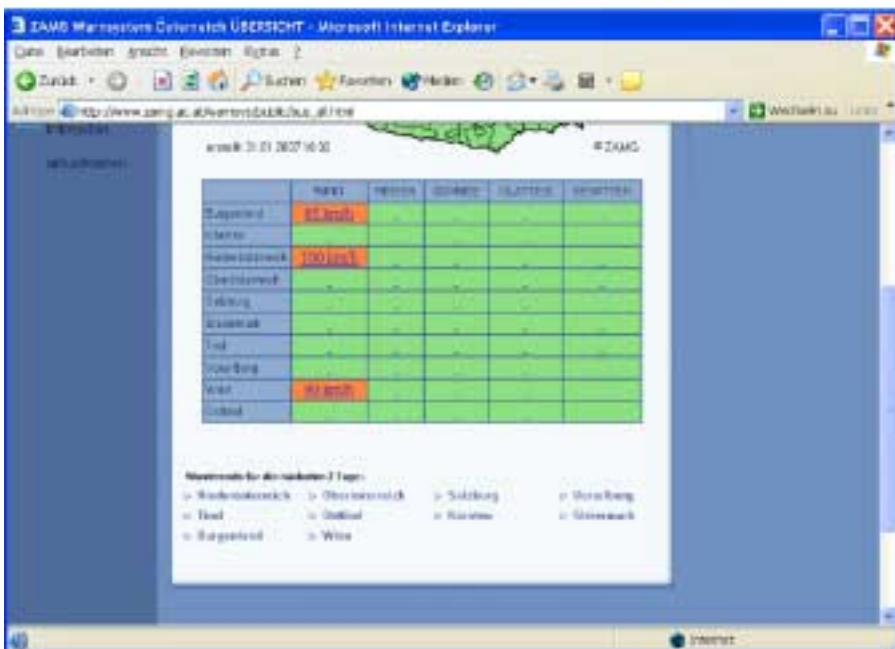
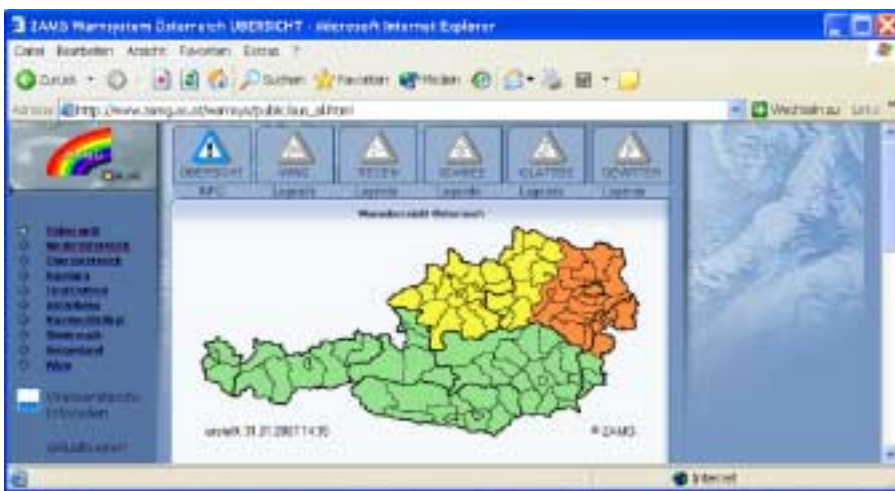


The warning system of ZAMG has utilised some ideas from the French vigilance system, especially the colour definitions: green, yellow, orange and red. **The Austrian philosophy in distributing a warning is determined by the principles in standardisation of alarm levels in relation to climatological data and areas. The colour of the warnings for the public represent how often the warning parameters of wind, rain and snow occur per year in each district. Green** represents no warning, **yellow** less than 18 times per year, **orange** less than 4 times per year and **red** less than 2 times per 3 years. For thunderstorms, hail and icing phenomena, the colour is linked to the magnitude of the event. The Austrian warning tool of ZAMG runs operationally but further developments are planned. It is also compatible and integrated into the European Multi-service Meteorological Awareness system (EMMA), operating formally as METEOALARM.



ZAMG Warnsystem - Bezirk:
Sankt Pölten (Land) DZ: 219

Legende: **WIND** **WIND**

Der Wind bläst zeitweise stark bis stürmisch aus West bis Nordwest mit Spitzen zwischen 70 und 90 km/h, wobei der Schwerpunkt während der Nacht sowie Donnerstag erste Tageshülle zu erwarten ist.

gff/lig
vom 11.01.2007 14:00 Uhr
bis: 03.02.2007 18:00 Uhr

What does that mean for a risk management strategy to public authorities?

Yellow means **damage is possible to exposed objects**, orange represents frequent damage and red identifies large scale damage.

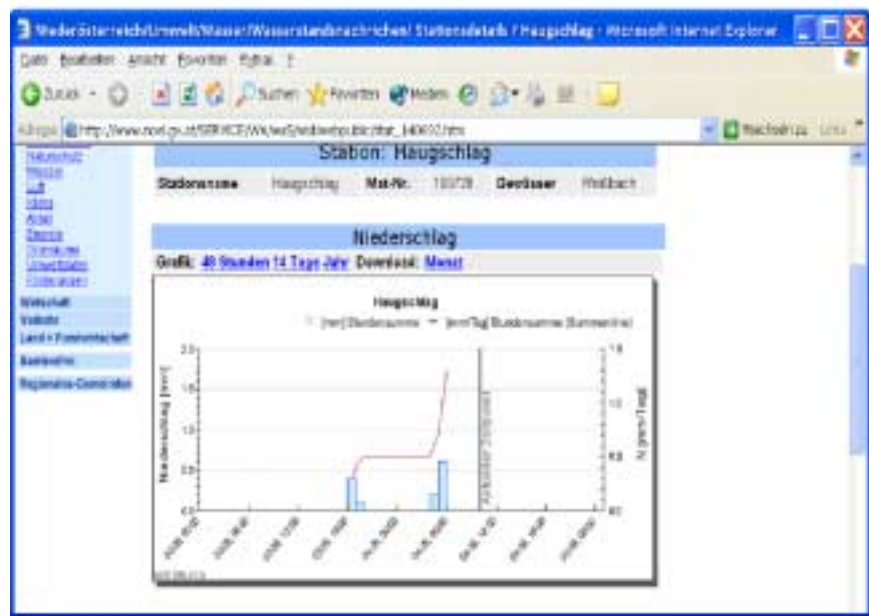
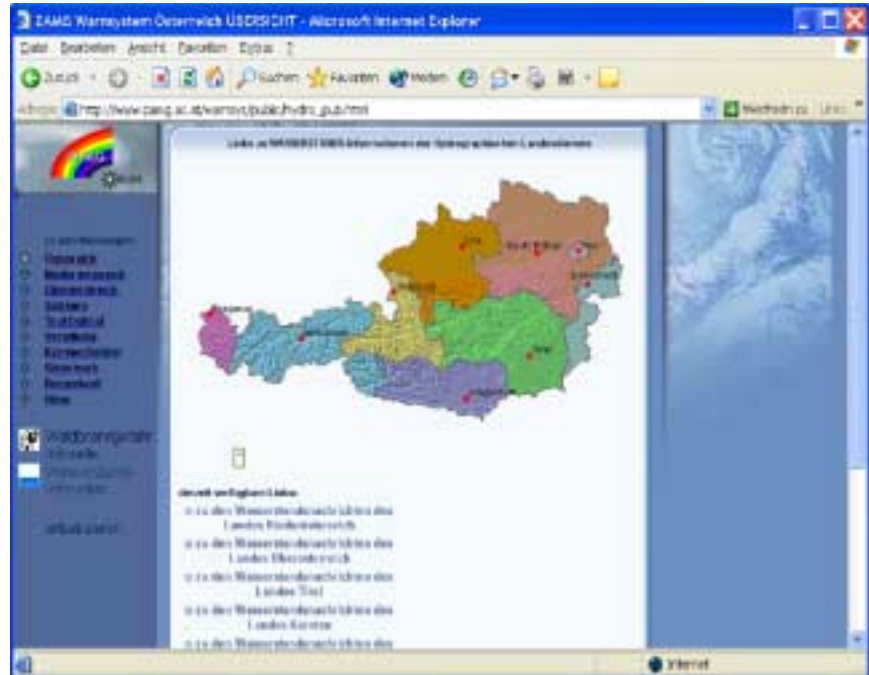
What does that mean to the public?

Yellow informs the public to **be alert**, orange to **be very alert** and red to **follow the advice of the public authorities**. Identified special clients do not need to constantly monitor their screen with this integrated internet portal. They are informed by SMS, email or fax if there is a change on the warning system.

At ZAMG a crucial verification method has been developed in order to evaluate the warnings in space and time. An example for wind is shown below for the period May 2005 – July 2006 over the counties of Lower Austria, Vienna and Burgenland:

Not detected: 13 %, false alarm rate (overwarning): 30%, preliminary warning time: 6,5 hours. The detection rate and false alarm rate are dependent on the frequency of warnings, density of the observation network and the orography of Austria. Links to flood information operated by the hydrological services of each county are included on the ZAMG homepage.

Special warnings for heat waves, drifting snow and snow load are inserted in the warning pages by an *'attention pictogram'*. The warnings for forest fire are provided in a special page on ZAMG homepage. Warnings for avalanches are not operated by ZAMG. A link to this service is in preparation.



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