WIGOS STATION IDENTIFIERS

The structure of a WIGOS Station Identifier is described below:

WIGOS Identifier Series (number)	Issuer of Identifier (number)	Issue Number (number)	Local Identifier (characters)

WIGOS Identifier Series

The WIGOS Identifier Series for OceanOPS platforms is a constant:0.

Issuer of Identifier

Issuer of identifier allocated for GOOS observing platforms administered through OceanOPS, is a constant: 22000.

Issue Number

This Issue number allows values between 0 to 65534.
This number will not have any meaning and will be allocated by the machine to secure uniqueness amongst exceptions, observing system workflows and practices, and also to resolve historical reuse of same identifiers.
In practice for OceanOPS platforms Issue number will be used to monitor the different redeployments of the same platform (e.g.: a new mission for a glider), or a new installation of an existing platform/station on a new ship or at a fixed site (e.g. moored buoys, OceanSITES).

Local Identifier

The Local Identifier is based generally on the historical WMO-identifier or other identifiers defined by Observing Networks.
The general form of a WMO identifier[1] is based on 7 digits:

$$WMO\text{-}ID = A_1B_wnnnnn.$$

where A_1= WMO Regional Association[2] area and B_w is the sub-area.

B_w is designated against the sub-area (1-7) for moored and drifting buoys, where fixed values 8 or 9 are assigned for other platform types.

Legacy 5-digit WMO-IDs (A_1B_wnnn) were converted into 7 digits by adding 00 after the A_1B_w (e.g. A_1B_w00nnn).

However, there are instances when these rules of identifier allocation according to geographical criteria have not been followed (e.g. some floats or drifter deployments). In

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[1] *See table on https://community.wmo.int/rules-allocating-wmo-numbers*
[2] *See map on https://community.wmo.int/rules-allocating-wmo-numbers*

practice it is often impossible to set a WMO-ID in advance of the deployments as a batch of platforms can be deployed in different areas.
While this geographical distinction makes sense for fixed or anchored instrumentation it is less appropriate for mobile platforms moving autonomously within different areas, continuously or not.

It is highly recommended that:
1) Data users do not base their data extraction or assimilation schemes on the A_1 or A_1B_w and
2) A_1B_w is to be defined only for fixed platforms.

As the WMO-ID (and WSI) allocation system is machine based, OceanOPS will use the platform deployment location and the WMO area polygons**Error! Bookmark not defined.** to define A_1 and B_w as appropriate.

Table 10.2.1 below illustrates the new rules that simplify the local identifier allocation based on platform types and geographical areas for a robust implementation.
While in the best practices of WSI management the WSI content should have no meaning and be simply unique, Table 10.2.1 proposal preserved some legacy on the readability of local identifiers by platform types.

Table: Rules for new local identifiers allocation

Platform Type	old local identifier	new local identifier
Profiling floats, micro floats, Ice tethered profilers, polar ocean profiling systems, deep floats, etc.	$A_1$9nnnnn A_1 = [1-7]	$A_1$9nnnnn A_1 = [1-7] random
Marine Animals	99nnnnn	99nnnnn
Subsurface autonomous platforms, gliders	$A_1$8xxnnn If A_1 = 4 nnn = 900-999 Else Nnn = 500-999	89nnnnn
any ship based instruments	ship call sign	Following up on SOT relevant decision[3], a **7 digits reference** (also called SOT-ID) is created from scratch and randomly by the machine with characters 2, 3 and 7 being letters, the others being letters or numbers. This ensures that this new identifier will not overlap with any radio call sign used in the past, or any other WMO-IDs.

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[3] *Decision 32 (JCOMM-5) on* https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=4528

Surface drifters, ice drifters	A_1B_wxxnnn nnn=500-899 xx=00-99 A_1= [1-7], Bw =[1-7]	$A_1$8nnnnn A_1= [1-7] random
Other autonomous surface instruments (saildrones, wave gliders, etc.)	$A_1$8xxnnn If A_1= 4 nnn = 900-999 Else Nnn = 500-999	$A_1$0nnnnn A_1= [1-7] random
Fixed systems, moored buoys, mooring SITES, HF Radars, tide gauges, etc.	moored buoys: A_1B_wxxnnn, nnn=000-499 xx=00-99 A_1= [1-7], Bw =[1-7] Fixed platforms: A_1B_wxxnnn, nnn=000-499 xx=00-99 A_1= [1-7], Bw =[1-7]	A_1B_wnnnnn nnnnn random A_1= [1-7], Bw = [1-7] matching WMO areas/subareas
Reserve of free blocks for future platform types 81nnnnn, 82nnnnn, 83nnnnn, 84nnnnn, 85nnnnn, 86nnnnn, 87nnnnn		

The WIGOS identifiers allocated by OceanOPS will have then the following form:

WIGOS Identifier Series (number)	Issuer of Identifier (number)	Issue Number (number)	Local Identifier (characters)
0	22000	0 to 65534	7 digits string