

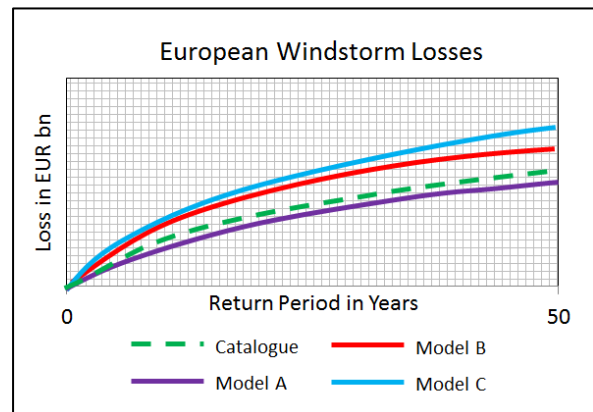
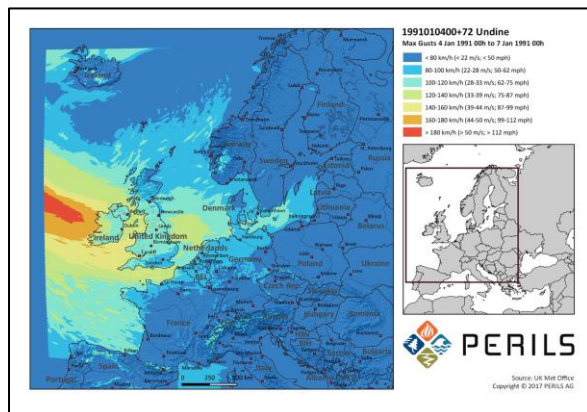


## PERILS RELEASES NEW EUROPEAN WINDSTORM CATALOGUE

**Zurich, 18 May** – PERILS, the independent Zurich-based organisation providing industry-wide catastrophe insurance data, has today announced the release of a storm catalogue containing the gust footprints of more than 200 of the largest European windstorms from the period 1979 to 2015.

The windstorm catalogue was produced in a joint effort between the UK Met Office (UKMO) and PERILS. Gust footprints were calculated using a combination of numerical weather modelling and actual gust measurements, and were subsequently scaled to representative gusts per CRESTA zone for each storm event. The resulting PERILS-UKMO Windstorm Catalogue provides the complete history of European extratropical cyclone activity from 1979 to 2015 for 26 European countries. It contains 37 years of storm history encompassing 214 individual storm events, which range from small, unnamed storms to large headline events such as Lothar, Daria or 87J.

The gust data, together with storm footprint maps, are provided in a readily accessible Excel format. The information is at the same geographic resolution as PERILS industry exposure and loss data. This allows for a direct analysis of the correlation between historical gust data, and observed losses and damage ratios.



**PERILS-UKMO Windstorm Catalogue:** The catalogue makes available the gust footprints of more than 200 of the largest European storms for the period 1979 to 2015 (the above map illustrates Storm “Undine”, 5-6 January 1991). Among other uses, the information can be used to calculate loss scenarios for past events based on current exposure data and derive loss-frequency relationships for a given portfolio and territory. This in turn can be compared to the output of probabilistic Cat models (as illustrated in the chart above).

The PERILS-UKMO Windstorm Catalogue can be applied to a multitude of different types of analytical research. Firstly, the gust history can be used to derive European windstorm hazard maps, giving the return periods of various gust-speed levels across Europe. Secondly, in combination with PERILS industry exposure and loss data, the catalogue can be used to derive damageability functions per territory and per Property Line of Business to help establish the relationship between wind speed and damage degree. Thirdly, the catalogue can be used to model 37 years of windstorm activity based on



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today's exposure levels, which in turn can serve to validate the high- to mid-frequency output of probabilistic windstorm models.

Commenting on the release, Luzi Hitz, CEO of PERILS, said: "We are very pleased to be able to provide this new European windstorm catalogue. We believe that it provides an ideal complement to our exposure and loss data, and will prove very useful in the ongoing validation of probabilistic Cat models – particularly in the high- to mid-frequency area, which is critical for re/insurance pricing. We are very grateful to the UK Met Office which worked closely with us throughout this process and enabled us to produce such a comprehensive catalogue. "

Eduard Held, Head of Products at PERILS, added: "The PERILS-UKMO Windstorm Catalogue will enable users to find answers to a broad spectrum of questions. By applying standard actuarial analytics, for example, the catalogue will enable them to establish the loss level for a given portfolio to be exceeded once every 20 years. Among other uses, such information is essential for the pricing of industry-loss-based transactions such as ILWs and Cat bonds, and is at the very core of our ability to better understand European windstorm risk."

Access to the catalogue is available to the PERILS user community at [www.perils.org](http://www.perils.org), subsection „Industry Loss, Extratropical Cyclones“.

### About PERILS and the Met Office

PERILS is an independent Zurich-based organisation providing industry-wide natural catastrophe exposure and event loss data. The PERILS Industry Exposure & Loss Database is available to all interested parties via annual subscription. PERILS industry loss estimates, provided via the PERILS Industry Loss Index Service, can be used as triggers in insurance risk transactions such as industry loss warranty contracts (ILW) or insurance-linked securities (ILS) and currently covers the following 16 countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. The use of PERILS exposure and loss data other than in conjunction with a valid PERILS License and according to its terms, by a Licensee or an Authorized User as defined in the License, is illegal and expressly forbidden. More information can be found on [www.perils.org](http://www.perils.org).

The Met Office is the United Kingdom's national meteorological service. It provides global weather and climate prediction and analysis on all timescales, and is a provider of extreme hazard analysis to the reinsurance and insurance sectors. For further information please see [www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk).

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