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The Lightning Network LAMPINET of the Italian Air Force Meteorological Service

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Italian Air force Meteorological Service set up a lightning network and put it in operation during 2004. The network is based on Vaisala technology with 15 IMPACT ESP sensors distributed on the peninsula and islands. Performances of the network can reach a detection efficiency of 90% and location accuracy of 0,5 km all over italian area. Basic requirements for the design of the network were highest reliability and the use of a technology which could allow the integration with lightning detection networks managed by other National Meteorological Services, in order to achieve the best coverage possible. Basic scientific and technical details of the network along with operational implementation and planned exploitation of the network information, with several post-processing products, are presented.