

*Implementation Experience questions:*

*(Your background)*

Been involved with the ICARTT format since ICARTT started as a science user. I've written IDL routines to read in the ICARTT format.

*(Completeness)* Does the specification provide all the detail you need to implement it in software? (e.g., to read or write a data file; to implement the specification, a profile or extension; or develop a tool such as a format translator) If not, describe what is missing in the specification.

*The ICARTT format was well described in the documentation*

*(Accuracy)* Do any parts of the specification contain inaccuracies, or internal inconsistencies? If so, please provide details.

*No*

*(Clarity)* Is any part of the specification ambiguous, or poorly explained? If so, please provide details.

*No*

*(Usefulness)* How well does this specification meet your information sharing needs? (e.g., does it work well with the data types and data manipulations in your application? Does it properly represent your datasets? What are the pros and cons of this data format?)

*It is an excellent format for aircraft observations. It is readily readable by eye (ASCII data). It is flexible and can be read by many different applications (I work with a lot of people who still use Excel!).*

*(Implementation)* What implementation challenges does the proposed standard present? Please provide details, if any.

*Operational Suitability questions:*

Do you currently use or plan to use the ICARTT format in a production setting? Do you plan to distribute data in this format to science collaborators and other researchers?

This is my standard format for collaborating with scientists both with the UK, EU and US.

Why do you choose to use the ICARTT format over other data formats for your applications?

Flexible and easy to read.

Does the ICARTT file format meet your requirements for storing and accessing data?

*Yep.*

Have you or your users encountered any difficulty when using some of the data in the ICARTT format? If you have, please provide a brief description of your experience.

*No*

What operational challenges or limitations does ICARTT present? Please provide details.

*Large datasets would be unwieldy in this format. However, most of the observational datasets are not large (compared to global model output etc).*

What benefits does the ICARTT file format present? Are there any drawbacks to using this file format? (e.g., Does it offer the flexibility you want to package the data types in your applications? Does it facilitate interdisciplinary studies?)

*It is very easy to read which makes it very useful to working with people who have no experience of netCDF etc.*

How much data do/will you provide or archive in the ICARTT format? (Number of distinct data sets, total data volume, number of files.)

*I don't provide any primary data but merge the UK aircraft observational data. We have done this for 4 missions, producing about 500Mb of processed data, and ~400 files*

How many users do you have or expect to have for data in the ICARTT format, and what is your expected user community?

*Within the UK atmospheric chemistry community there must be ~100 people*