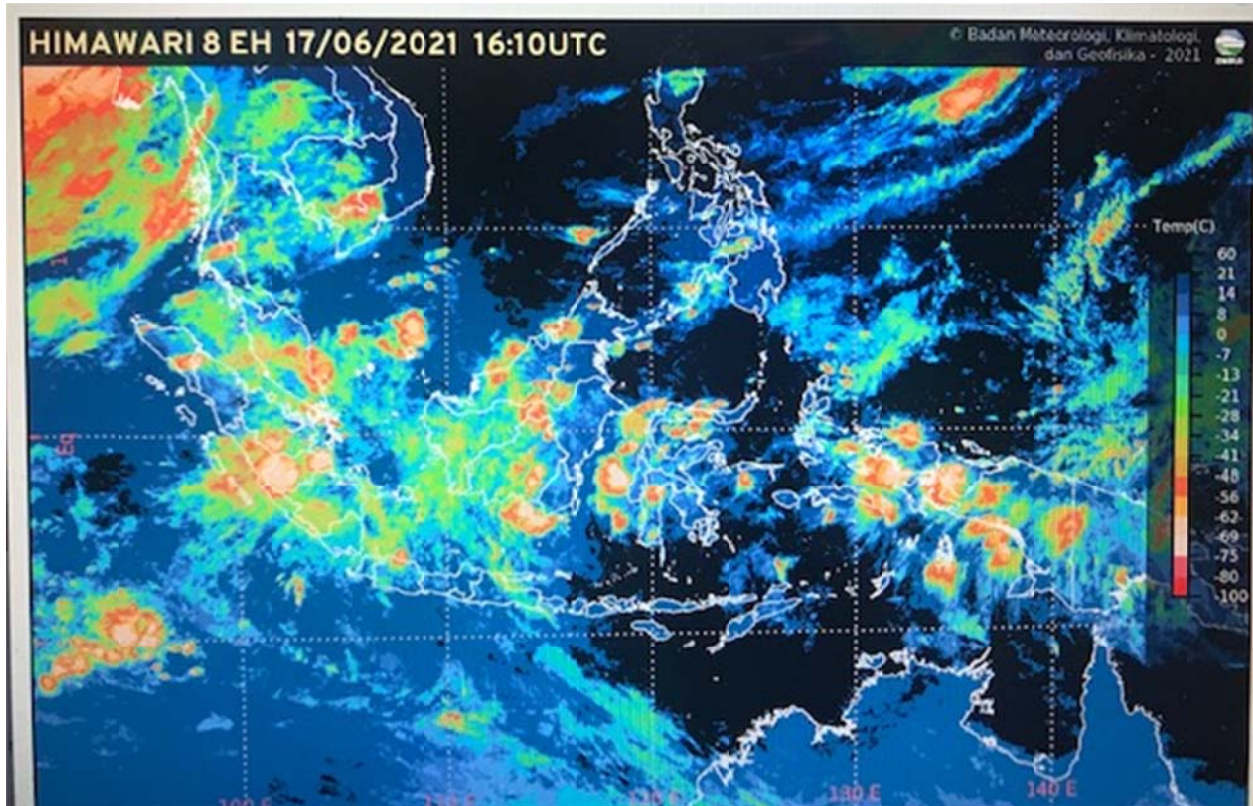


Worldwide Ferry Safety Association receives grant award by Lloyd's Register Foundation



The Worldwide Ferry Safety Association (WFSA) is delighted to announce that the Lloyd's Register Foundation has awarded the organization a grant for its project to improve detection of sudden hazardous weather in Indonesia, by analyzing the archived weather information in connection with deadly maritime events.

Partnering with WFSA is Aleik Nurwahyudy a Ph.D. student at Surabaya ITS and a member of the staff of the Indonesian government National Transportation Safety Committee; Dr. Paul Kucera, Cooperative Project for Operational Meteorology (COMET)/Assistant Director for International Capacity Development · The University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, NOAA; and two University at Albany professors, Dr. George Berg, College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity, and Dr. Catherine T. Lawson, Director of the Albany Visualization and Infomatics Lab (AVAIL). The team led by Dr. Roberta Weisbrod, Executive Director of WFSA, will be enlarged by the addition of an Indonesian meteorologist and academic data analysts and student interns.

Weather is a critical factor in many maritime accidents. According to published reports based on WFSA's data base, just over 50% fatal ferry accidents have a weather causation. A key issue

is being able to accurately predict the weather in the next 0-6 hours, known as nowcasting, a time period when decisions to sail, and or whether routes need to be adjusted, are made. Nowcast accuracy is dependent on local knowledge and this project aims to use data analytics to improve understanding of local weather patterns so that the accuracy and precision of predictions are improved.

The Lloyd's Register Foundation is an independent global charity with an important mission: Engineering a safer world. Supporting research, innovation, and education to make the world a safer place.

The mission of the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association, a 501c3 not for profit organization, is to prevent ferry fatalities and to expand the use of safe ferries globally.