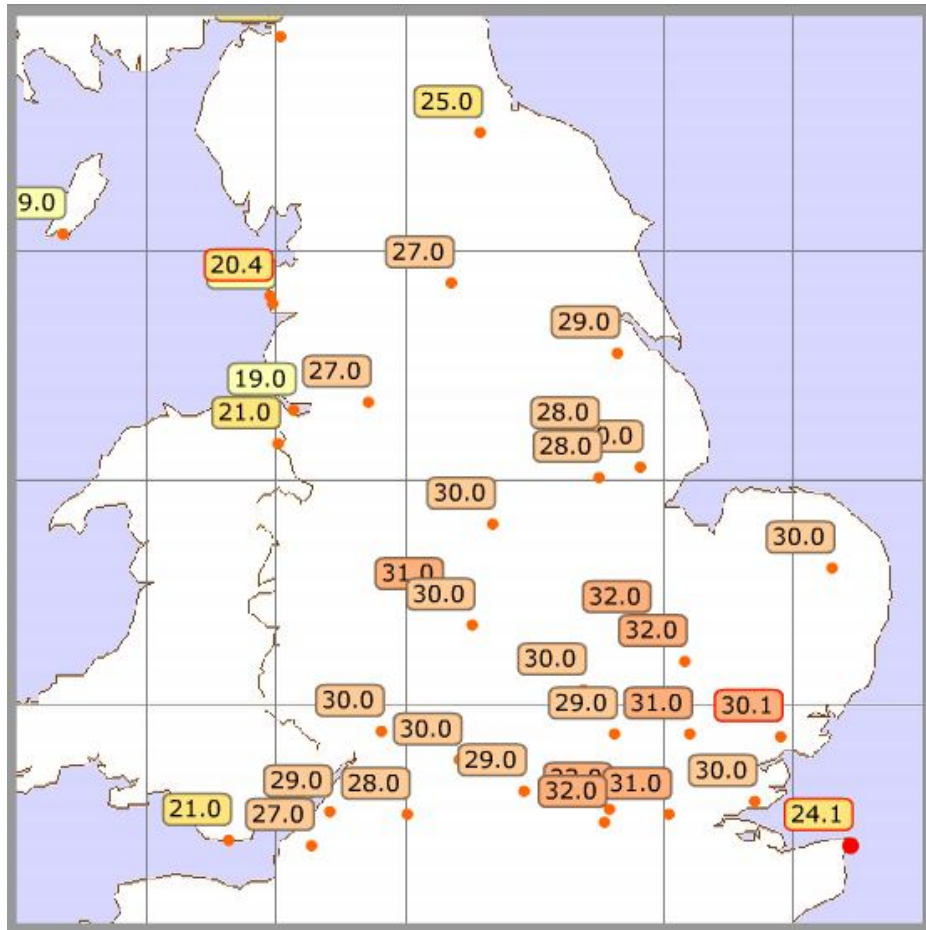


# Configuring WeatherMap Live



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## Overview

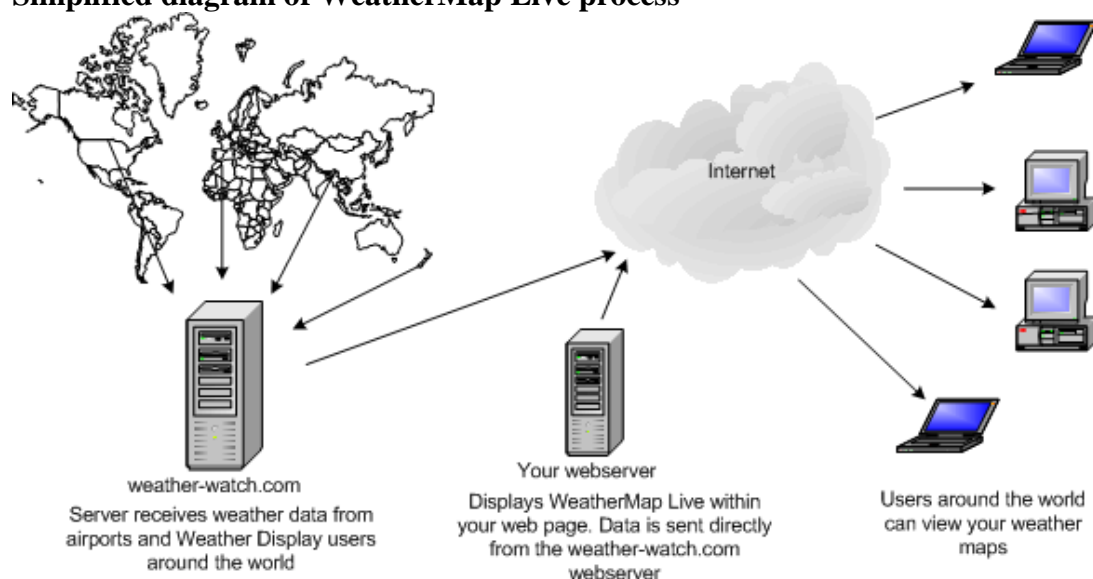
WeatherMap Live provides you with a way of displaying weather data on a map via your website. WeatherMap Live uses data available from various weather sources including Metars (airports) and Weather Display weather stations. The data is displayed in a web browser using the free Adobe Flash plug-in and is pre-installed on most browsers and computers. The data is updated every 15 minutes from Weather Display stations and on a less frequent basis from other sources.

WeatherMap Live is free to use in Evaluation mode for a limited number of stations for a fixed map of the UK with an Evaluation Version notice displayed. This mode is provided to allow you to confirm that WeatherMap Live works correctly on your web server. After purchasing the software and data feed subscription you will be able to configure up to 10 of your own maps to present to your website visitors.

To set up maps you will need to:

1. Configure your maps by entering longitude and latitude co-ordinates into the **WeatherMap Live Management Centre** at [http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml\\_sys/index.php](http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml_sys/index.php)
2. Make map images matching the selected co-ordinates. Maps can be generated for you by the WML Management Centre or alternatively found on the internet at places such as <http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/mapit/>. Each map must be in jpg format (not progressive jpg). This is a requirement in Flash. For best results each map must be 550x550 pixels. Please ensure that the copyright for the map image you wish to use allows you to use it on your web site.
3. Configuring the wmlconfig.xml file to match your map images. The configuration file can be edited manually or using options in the WML Management Centre to upload, modify and display the configuration file for cutting and pasting onto your web server.

### Simplified diagram of WeatherMap Live process



## Introduction

*This document assumes you've read the readme.html file in the download package.*

WeatherMap Live can be customised in a number of ways by amending the wmlconfig.xml file:

- The units which are displayed by default can be pre-set
- The option to allow the display of buttons so the user can change units
- A range of options to indicate the compass direction
- Whether to display date, time or both
- The offset and size of each weather icon or parameter
- The language of the text
- Position and location of screen titles
- The colour of the weather station markers
- Whether the current conditions text is always displayed or if it slides open when a station is 'moused over'
- Whether the user can stop or slow rotation
- The fine alignment of individual maps
- The map image location and label of each map
- The font colour/size and dot colour/size/style for each kind of location marker

Many of the weather icon settings can be configured once for all maps or on a map by map basis (see *Global and Individual Map Settings* below).

The wmlconfig.xml file is read once by WeatherMap Live when a user first views the page, it is only read again if the page is refreshed or re-visited. Therefore any changes to the wmlconfig.xml file will not take place until this happens. In some cases the web browser or other cache can store this file which results in changes not being displayed. See the troubleshooting section of the readme.html file for help in this situation.

***Warning!** The configuration file is an xml file and as such is very sensitive to errors and typographic mistakes. It is also case sensitive. Therefore it is recommended to always create a backup before making any changes. Alternatively use the menu options in the WML Management Centre to modify and output the file. Your options are then stored on the WML server and an error free configuration file can be re-generated at any time.*

## Upgrading WeatherMap Live

There have been significant changes to WeatherMap Live in the last couple of versions. If you are upgrading from an older version, please check the notes below for important things to watch out for when upgrading to WML v2.05.

### ***Upgrading to WML v2.05***

Prior to WML v2.02, the Flash components of both WML and Weather Display Live (WDL) were developed by the same person and it was therefore reasonably safe to assume that the two packages were compatible. From WML v2.02 the packages are being developed by different people and therefore there may be compatibility issues between them.

Previously you may have installed WML (or MML) and WDL into the same directory on your web server. WML v2.02 and later versions use a different version of swfobject.js and this will probably clash with the version used by WDL. Therefore, it is recommended that WDL and WML are now placed in different directories and you upgrade in the following way:

1. Create a copy of your WML installation in a new directory.
2. Replace the index.html, swfobject.js and WML .swf files with the latest versions included in the WML v2.05 installation package. If you have created a customised version of index.html or use a script to load WML onto your web page, compare the new index.html file with your own page/script to identify the changes in the way that swfobject.js is used to load WML and modify your own scripts in the same way.
3. If you are upgrading from MML v1.03 or older, make an additional change as described below.

### ***Upgrading from MML v1.03 (or older)***

Up to v1.03 WeatherMap Live had a different name (MML) which had to be changed due to trademark issues in some parts of the world. If you are using a version of MML, i.e. v1.03 or earlier your XML configuration file needs a minor change to make it compatible with WML v2.05. Edit your XML configuration file and change the <mml> and </mml> tags to <wml> and </wml> tags.

## Change Log

### ***Differences between WML v2.04 and v2.05***

- 1) Added Czech language.

### ***Differences between WML v2.03 and v2.04***

- 1) Fixed problem that ignored town location settings in the config file.

### ***Differences between WML v2.02 and v2.03***

- 1) Fixed problem that prevented the first unit conversion button being displaying.
- 2) Fixed problem that stopped units for values in the sidebar for an initial station from being changed by the unit conversion buttons.

### ***Differences between WML v1.04 and v2.05***

- 1) Added a URL parameter to allow selection of a specific map on startup.

If you have multiple maps defined for display in WML, this allows you to create specific URLs that will open WML with a specific map displayed rather than the previous method of displaying the first map in the config.xml file. This requires the HTML that loads WML to be modified and a new swfobject.js file.

- 2) The WML client has had a number of changes:

- 2.1) The Pan/Zoom function has been removed. This didn't work as well as hoped and added considerable complexity to the code.

- 2.2) There is a new drop down box which allows you to select a specific station from the map to display conditions for.

- 2.3) The client can now display country/city/town names to allow your maps to be better customised. There's a new Management Centre map maintenance function to select the names to display on the map. The maintenance function also allows you to define the position of the name compared to the marker for the location. There are also new config.xml entries that allow you to define the colour/size of the font used for the name and the colour/size of the marker for the name.

- 3) The config.xml Management Centre (load/modify/display) options have been modified to handle the new location name settings.

- 4) The Management Centre map option that selects stations for display on a map has been modified to allow specific station types to be listed for selection.

5) Added an extra map type to the map generator to create higher resolution maps for smaller areas. Note: The map data (SRTM) has some holes in it, e.g. N Florida, so it's not usable in all areas.

6) Hungarian language has been added.

7) A new configuration option is available for maps, making the map image partially transparent.

On 'busy' maps, the map image can make it difficult to see the station icons. This option can be set individually for each map and is a transparency percentage from 0-99%. A transparency of 40% seems to work well with my topographical maps.

### Bug Fixes:

a) Modified various Management Centre scripts that download maps to avoid failures with certain web servers.

b) Modified the map generator script to prevent failed maps stalling the generation queue.

c) Fixed a problem in the WML client when the temperature icon sometimes faded out to virtually invisible.

d) Fixed a number of issues where help text didn't display in the Management Centre.

## Initial configuring of wmlconfig.xml

You can use WeatherMap Live to display the evaluation map showing limited stations on a single map of the UK 'straight out of the box'.

1. First place the wmlconfig.xml file, the index.html file, map.jpg, swfobject.js and the wmlv2\_04.swf file in the same folder on your web server. It is recommended to create a separate folder to contain WML, but this isn't essential.
2. Open the file index.html in an html editor, Notepad, or a similar text editor and locate the line which says:

```
pathToWmlconfig =  
    "http://www.yourwebsite.com/wmlconfig.xml"
```

The line must point to the location of the wmlconfig.xml file on your web server. Therefore if the wmlconfig.xml file is at <http://www.mywebsite.com/data/wmlconfig.xml> you would change this line to show that. In this particular instance you would end up with the line looking like this:

```
pathToWmlconfig =  
    "http://www.mywebsite.com/data/wmlconfig.xml"
```

Open a web browser and navigate to the index.html file on your web site. You should see a map of the UK with a few weather stations and an Evaluation Notice displayed on top. In evaluation mode WeatherMap Live will only work with these preset stations but it allows you to confirm that WeatherMap Live is working and allow you to experiment with the various options before purchasing the software and a data subscription.

You can call the web page and wmlconfig.xml files anything you like (except wmldesktop.xml for historical reasons) but you must ensure that the web page is amended to point to the correct name for the wmlconfig.xml file before it can be used, otherwise WeatherMap Live will be unable to find the file and an error message will be displayed.

For example if your website is called <http://www.greatwebsite.com> and your configuration file is called wmlconfig2.xml open the file index.html in an html editor, Notepad, or a similar text editor and locate the line which says:

```
pathToWmlconfig =  
    "http://www.yourwebsite.com/wmlconfig.xml"
```

Change the line so it says:

```
pathToWmlconfig =  
    "http://www.greatwebsite.com/wmlconfig2.xml"
```



After you have purchased and set up your maps using the WeatherMap Live Management Centre [http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml\\_sys/index.php](http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml_sys/index.php) you will need to enter the username you have selected into the tags:

```
<username></username>
```

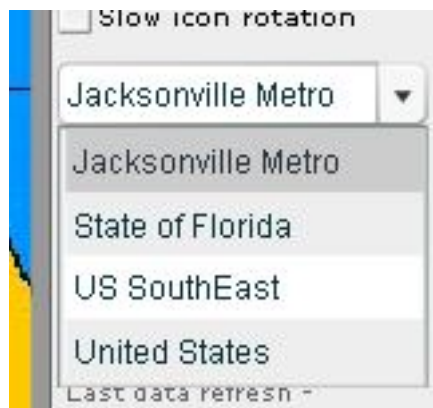
replacing the word “evaluation”.

For each map you will need to enter values into the following tags for each <map> tag:

```
<label></label>  
<mapName></mapName>  
<url></url>
```

The <mapName> relates to the name you set up on the WML Management Centre for your map.

The <label> tag is the label for each map that appears in the drop down list of maps.



The <url> tag is the path to your map image (550x550 pixel jpg images). If you call your map map23.jpg and put it in your images folder you would put this into the tag:

```
<url>http://www.mywebsite.com/images/map23.jpg</url>
```

A complete set of tags for a map may therefore look like:

```
<mapName>EnglandNE</mapName>  
<label>North of England</label>  
<url>http://www.mywebsite.com/images/map23.jpg</url>
```

## Global and Individual Map settings

Global settings are contained within the part of the xml file immediately following the `<wml>` tag, e.g.

```
<wml>
  <windOffsetx>12</windOffsetx>
  <windOffsety>12</windOffsety>
  <windAnimated>1</windAnimated>
  <windSize>100</windSize>
  <tempOffsetx>12</tempOffsetx>
  <tempOffsety>12</tempOffsety>
  <tempSize>100</tempSize>
  <pressureOffsetx>12</pressureOffsetx>
  <pressureOffsety>12</pressureOffsety>
  <pressureSize>100</pressureSize>
  <iconOffsetx>12</iconOffsetx>
  <iconOffsety>12</iconOffsety>
  <iconSize>100</iconSize>
  <fineAlignx>0</fineAlignx>
  <fineAligny>0</fineAligny>
  <initMap></initMap>
  <linkType>0</linkType>
  <logoUrl></logoUrl>
  <logoLink></logoLink>
```

Each map has a minimum set of tags of:

```
<map1>
  <label></label>
  <mapName></mapName>
  <url></url>
</map1>
```

To override the global settings for a specific map simply enter the required tags with the value you wish to change between them. For example to change the temperature and wind icons for map 1, copy and modify the tags so that they are additionally placed within the `<map1></map1>` tags like this:

```
<map1>
  <label></label>
  <mapName></mapName>
  <url>map.jpg</url>
  <windOffsetx></windOffsetx>
  <windOffsety></windOffsety>
  <windSize></windSize>
  <tempOffsetx></tempOffsetx>
  <tempOffsety></tempOffsety>
  <tempSize></tempSize>
  <pressureOffsetx></pressureOffsetx>
```

```
<pressureOffsety></pressureOffsety>
    <pressureSize></pressureSize>
    <iconOffsetx></iconOffsetx>
    <iconOffsety></iconOffsety>
    <iconSize></iconSize>
    <fineAlignx></fineAlignx>
    <fineAligny></fineAligny>
    <showScreenTitle>1</showScreenTitle>
    <initStation></initStation>
</map1>
```

These values for map 1 will override the global settings which will still be applied to any other maps.

## Configuration options

Here is a complete list of the options available via the wmlconfig.xml file.

### ***Setting the language***

WeatherMap Live includes built in support for several languages. You can select the language to use by specifying it within the language tag:

```
<language>english</language>
```

Currently the options are:

- english (default and may be specified by leaving the tag blank)
- finnish
- danish
- dutch
- french
- swedish
- german
- catalan
- spanish
- norwegian
- italian
- portuguese
- estonian
- hungarian
- czech

Note that the options and tags are case sensitive.

### ***Setting the initial default units***

You can change the units which are displayed in WeatherMap Live at startup. To change an option such as the temperature units that WeatherMap Live starts with find the line:

```
<initTempUnits>C</initTempUnits>
```

Change it so that it now reads –

```
<initTempUnits>F</initTempUnits>
```

Refresh your web page to reload WeatherMap Live and see the new temperature units. In the same way you can change the barometric pressure, rainfall, altitude and

wind units at start up.

The options are as follows:

Measurement	Options	Default	Tag
Temperature	C or F	C	<initTempUnits>
Wind	mph, kts, kph or m/s.	mph	<initWindUnits>
<i>Catalan, French Italian and German language version only -</i>	km/h (not kph)		
Rain	mm or in	mm	<initRainUnits>
Pressure	mb, inHg or hPa	mb	<initPressureUnits>
Cloud base Height (Altitude)	ft, m or yds	ft	<initCloudbaseUnits>

You can also specify the initial map to display if you have more than one configured. Simply enter the map name into this tag:

```
<initMap>EnglandNE</initMap>
```

When WeatherMap Live loads the corresponding map / location in the drop down list will be selected.

You can also specify the initial station displayed in the sidebar when the map loads for any map as well. To select the station simply enter the station for the particular map into this tag:

```
<initStation></initStation>
```

So, for example if you wished to display the Metar for Gatwick Airport in the sidebar when the map loads you would enter:

```
<initStation>EGKK</initStation>
```

This is most effective when you also set the sidebar to be open all the time:

```
<slideBar>1</slideBar>
```

## ***Choosing the buttons to display***

Now that you've set your units to display you may decide that you only want visitors to be able to change certain units, or none at all. This can be achieved by changing the appropriate tag values in the wmlconfig.xml file from 1 (the default – show the button) to 0 (don't show the button).

The relevant tags are as follows:

Temperature	<btnTemp>1</btnTemp>
Pressure	<btnPressure>1</btnPressure>
Wind	<btnWind>1</btnWind>
Rain	<btnRain>1</btnRain>
Altitude	<btnAlt>1</btnAlt>

Note that as you remove buttons the remaining buttons will automatically align from the left of the screen. Additionally you can choose the order that buttons are displayed in the row. For example you may wish them to correspond to the positioning of the instruments you've chosen. To do this place the number within the <order> tag which corresponds to the position of the button. For example if you want the temperature button to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left the temperature button tags would read:

```
<btnTemp>
    <show>1</show>
    <order>3</order>
</btnTemp>
```

## ***Setting the compass & date/time options***

You can choose whether to show the wind direction heading in letters and/or the wind direction degrees in the current conditions display.

The options are:

Enter 0 to hide the compass heading.  
 Enter 1 to show the compass heading in letters  
 Enter 2 to show the compass heading in degrees.  
 Enter 3 to show both (default).

```
<showCompassHeading>1</showCompassHeading>
```

You can choose the format that you wish date values to be displayed. For example the default is dd/mm/yyyy but you may wish to use the USA format of mm/dd/yyyy. You can do this by specifying the appropriate format in the tag:

```
<dateFormat>dd/mm/yyyy</dateFormat>
```

Valid options are:

- dd/mm/yyyy (default)

- mm/dd/yyyy
- yyyy/dd/mm
- yyyy/mm/dd
- dd.mm.yyyy
- mm.dd.yyyy
- yyyy.dd.mm
- yyyy.mm.dd
- dd-mm-yyyy
- mm-dd-yyyy
- yyyy-dd-mm
- yyyy-mm-dd

The date will not appear if an invalid format option is entered.

### ***Setting the speed of weather icon rotation***

To change the speed of rotation between weather parameters enter the required speed in seconds into this line:

```
<auto>5</auto>
```

Change 5 to 10 for a pause of 10 seconds between each rotation. Setting to 0 will cause the rotation to stop and allow you to have a static display showing all parameters at once. You will need to amend the icon offsets in this situation to avoid icons overlapping.

### ***Setting a screen title***

You can choose to display a title in the corner of the screen indicating what the user is viewing – temperature, current conditions, wind or pressure. The title can be displayed in any corner of the map as follows:

```
<showScreenTitle>1</showScreenTitle> = top left  
<showScreenTitle>2</showScreenTitle> = top right  
<showScreenTitle>3</showScreenTitle> = bottom left  
<showScreenTitle>4</showScreenTitle> = bottom right
```

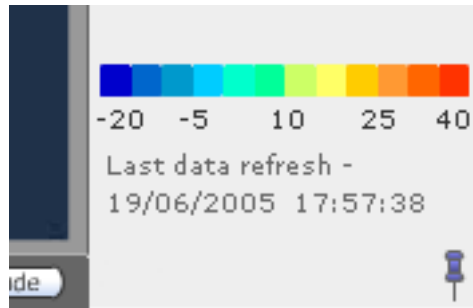


### **Slide Bar and User Controls**

You can choose whether the current conditions slide bar is always open or opens only when a station is 'moused over'. Use the tag:

```
<slideBar>0</slideBar>
```

Set to 0 to keep it closed until 'moused over' or 1 for it to always be open. Note that if you set WeatherMap Live to use more than one map then the push-pin is pressed by default when first opened. The user can still change it but it will highlight the additional maps better than if the slide bar was opening and closing for each station.



You can also specify whether the checkboxes appear to give the user more control over what they are seeing:



To let the user pause the rotation enter 1 into the tag:

```
<userCanPause>1</userCanPause>
```

A 0 will hide the checkbox. To let the user slow the rotation by 50% enter 1 into the tag:

```
<userCanSlowRotation>1</userCanSlowRotation>
```



## **Changing the Colour of the Station Markers**

By default the station markers are an “orangey-red” colour but this might not suit the colour of the map you are using. However this can be customised. To change the colour simply enter the colours for when “moused over” and normal in hexadecimal as you would do for a web page. For example to change the markers to a bright yellow and an orange when “moused over” you would change the tags:

```
<stationColour>#FFFF00</stationColour>  
<stationHighlight>#FF9900</stationHighlight>
```

Most image editors will show you the hexadecimal equivalents for colours and they are also readily available on the internet.



## **Offsets and Size**

You can specify the offset from the station marker for the temperature, wind, pressure and condition icons. Default values have been used but if you change the size of icons or use a static rather than rotational display of information you may wish to make amendments. This can also be useful if you have a limited number of stations for your map, enlarging the icons can improve the look.

To change the offset simply enter values, corresponding to the number of pixels away from the station marker into the <x> and <y> tags.

The size tags are based on a percentage. Therefore to increase the size of an icon by 50% you would enter 150.

For example to increase the size of the temperature values by three quarters and move them away from the station marker by twice the normal amount you would enter values such as:

```
<tempOffsetx>24</tempOffsetx>  
<tempOffsety>24</tempOffsety>  
<tempSize>175</tempSize>
```

Don't forget you can do this for individual weather parameters, either globally or for individual maps – see *Global and Individual Map Settings*.

### ***Fine Alignment of Maps***

Sometimes it can be difficult to ensure your map is accurately aligning with the location of stations. To assist you can tweak the position by +/- 50 pixels globally or for individual maps. Simply enter the required offset into this tag then refresh your webpage to view the changes:

```
<fineAlignx>0</fineAlignx>
<fineAligny>0</fineAligny>
```

### ***Wind Arrows***

The wind arrows can be animated or static. By default they are set to be animated but can be changed to static by entering a 0 into this tag:

```
<windAnimated>1</windAnimated>
```

### ***Adding a Logo to Maps***

You can add your own logo to each map within WeatherMap Live. You can only have one logo for each instance of WeatherMap Live but you can choose where to position the logo for each map or not show it at all. Within the <wml> section of the wmlconfig.xml file are the following tags:

```
<logoUrl> </logoUrl>
<logoLink></logoLink>
```

<logoUrl> is the location of the image logo and should contain a path to the location of your logo image file which must be a jpg file and ideally 100 x 100 pixels. Images not this size will be automatically resized which may cause unwanted artefacts.

<logoLink> is a URL you can associate with the logo which will launch when the logo is clicked, e.g.

```
<logoUrl>http://www.mywebsite.com/logo.jpg</logoUrl>
<logoLink> http://www.mywebsite.com/weather/</logoLink>
```

You then have choices for individual maps as to whether you want it displayed and where:

```
<showLogo>3</showLogo>
```

Enter 0 for no logo, 1 for top left, 2 for top right, 3 for bottom left, 4 for bottom right:

```
<showLogo>1</showLogo> = top left
<showLogo>2</showLogo> = top right
<showLogo>3</showLogo> = bottom left
<showLogo>4</showLogo> = bottom right
```

## **Station Links**

The <linkType> tag determines how the link for external data for weather stations behaves in the browser. The values are as follows:

- 0 - Blank - opens link in a new window (default)
- 1 - Self - opens link in the current frame in the current window
- 2 - Parent - opens link in the parent of the current frame
- 3 - Top - opens link in the top-level frame in the current window

## **Locations**

Locations are a new feature in WML 2.x. They allow you to place markers and text indicating locations on your map. You can select the locations to display for each map in the WML Management Centre. The configuration file allows you to set various options for locations, only globally through, not for each map.

There are 5 options available for each type of location. These are set using the following tags:

<colourFont>FF0000</colourFont>	- Colour of the location font in hex format
<colourDot>FF0000</colourDot>	- Colour of the location marker dot in hex format
<dotSize>150</dotSize>	- Location marker dot size as percentage
<textSize>150</textSize>	- Size of location font as a percentage
<dotStyle>circle</dotStyle>	- Style of location marker dot

Dot style can be “circle”, “square”, “cross”, “x”.

These can be set for each kind of location and are placed between the appropriate location type tags, e.g.

```
<country>
</country>
<largeCity>
</largeCity>
<mediumCity>
</mediumCity>
<smallCity>
</smallCity>
<town>
</town>
```

## Using the Online wmlconfig.xml Generator

There is now an easy way to generate the wmlconfig.xml file by using the online generator at the WeatherMap Live Management Centre - [http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml\\_sys/index.php](http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml_sys/index.php)

The file can be created by selecting options and entering values in text boxes rather than manually adjusting values directly in the wmlconfig.xml file.

### *Getting Started*

1. Begin by logging into the WeatherMap Live Management Centre - [http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml\\_sys/index.php](http://wxd.weather-watch.com/wml_sys/index.php) as normal.
2. Ensure WeatherMap Live is set up and working in evaluation mode in a sub-directory of the main web site. When it is, enter the URL of the evaluation wmlconfig.xml file and then tick the box to say you want to set up a standard map.
3. Select a pre-defined map and then wait until it's created (30-60 seconds). An email will be sent describing how to download the relevant map image file.
4. Configure the WeatherMap Live map settings (or leave as default) and take a note of the URL where the map image file (info included in email in step 3) should be stored when it's been downloaded.
5. Review randomly selected stations. Add/remove stations as required, or leave as default.
6. Select zero, one or more priority stations (stations that display over the top of other nearby stations) and select the initial station to display on this map. This page can also be left as the default.
7. Configure the main WeatherMap Live settings, or leave as default initially.
8. Display the finished configuration file. Cut and paste the contents of the table into your wmlconfig.xml file.
9. Access WeatherMap Live on your web site and the first map should be displayed.
10. Repeat from (3) if you want to add another standard map.

If you already have a wmlconfig.xml file, there is also an option to allow you to load your existing settings into the WML Management Centre so that you can edit the settings using the online options and then display the new settings for cutting and pasting into the wmlconfig.xml file on your server.

## Checking for correct version of Flash

WeatherMap Live requires visitors to your website to use Flash Player v7 or later otherwise it will not load or display incorrectly.

WeatherMap Live will check that the user has v5 or greater installed but cannot detect if the Flash Player is installed. By using the supplied index.html file, and associated swfobject.js file, installation of Flash and its versions are both checked. The user will need JavaScript enabled on their browser for this to work though.

The message displayed to users who do not have the correct version installed is –

### **WeatherMap Live**

You need to install v7, or greater, of Flash Player from [Adobe](#) and have javascript enabled to view WeatherMap Live.

This can be changed within the index.html file.