

# The Observatory

www.osl.gc.ca

## New

### TIDES, CURRENTS, AND WATER LEVELS

The new Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) Tides, Currents, and Water Levels Web site opened on the Internet on 30 April 2003. It provides predicted times and heights of high and low water and the hourly water levels for more than seven hundred stations in Canada, including several hundreds along the St. Lawrence shoreline. Available data also include general information about tides and details about selected stations, areas, and regions.

Site	Zone	Region
Québec		
Description		
Québec		
Locality		Québec
Reference port		Québec
Chart No.		1316
Type of tide		semi-diurnal
Range	Mean tide	4.4 m
	Large tide	5.9 m
Height	Higher high water	Mean tide 4.9 m
		Large tide 6.1 m
	Basse mer inférieure	Mean tide 0.5 m
		Large tide 0.2 m
Extremes recorded	Extreme high water	7.1 m
	Extreme low water	-1.3 m
Mean water level		2.6 m
Maximum speed of the currents	Flood	3.0 knots
	Ebb	4.0 knots

This site was developed by the CHS in collaboration with the Ocean Sciences Branch of the Maurice Lamontagne Institute (MLI) and the St. Lawrence Observatory (OSL). It represents the national access point for CHS Tides, Currents and Water Levels.

Tides, Currents, and Water Levels

Canadian Hydrographic Service

<http://www.lau.chs-shc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

### In Brief

#### New

- Tides, Currents and Water Levels
- Behind-the-scenes

#### Coming Soon

- Real-Time Buoy
- OSL Web Traffic

### BEHIND-THE-SCENES

A significant portion of the work done on the St. Lawrence Observatory portal is somewhat invisible. Much effort is dedicated to ensuring **accessibility** to the site regardless of the platform or browser version (Windows, Macintosh, Linux, Internet Explorer, Netscape, etc.) used by clients. This work involves numerous performance tests as well as quality control of the content display in the various environments that reflect OSL user diversity.

Another aspect of this behind-the-scenes work is aimed at ensuring that the programming languages used for the many Web pages and applications are consistent with international standards.



# Coming Soon

## REAL-TIME BUOY

The IML-4 buoy will soon be moored (end of May 2003) offshore of Rimouski, QC. Data such as air and sea-surface temperature, salinity, atmospheric pressure, and wind speed, direction, and gusts will be displayed in real-time every 15 minutes on the OSL Internet portal, both in graphical and table form. This year, additional parameters will be added: colored organic matter and relative humidity.

IML-4 is part of a network of buoys. The collected data is used in the context of a satellite data validation program.



<http://www.osl.gc.ca/en/stations/temps-reel.html>

# OSL Web Traffic

## Statistics

This fourth year on the Internet shows that the OSL portal is already off to a very good start and that 2003 looks quite promising in terms of Web traffic.

The first 4 months of 2003 reveal a **monthly average of 249,000 hits, 7,671 sessions, and 4,375 organizations** and groups of unique visitors. The average session duration is 32 minutes.

The visitors origin is quite diverse and includes countries from around the world.



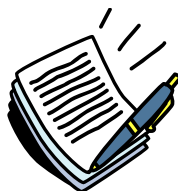
# osl@osl.gc.ca

The OSL regularly receives requests and questions from users of the portal. It is always a pleasure for us to provide answers and help you find the data and information you need.

Please do not hesitate to send us your comments or suggestions.

### To contact us:

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The St. Lawrence Observatory is an Internet portal of Fisheries and Oceans Canada—Quebec Region. It was supported during its start-up phase by Canada Economic Development and the SLV2000 Action Plan.

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