

Global Lightning Detection Network (GLD360)

Accurate, actionable global lightning detection for maritime operations with the simplicity of a subscription



Key benefits

No sensors or capital costs

Users get immediate access to GLD360 real-time global data without having to purchase, install, or maintain any sensor equipment or processing systems. This can relieve significant burdens for ships, offshore platforms and stations, and ports.

Better data, smarter decision-making

GLD360 provides complete awareness by delivering pinpoint lightning data while also encompassing entire storm systems — not just local areas within sensor or radar range.

Simple access and usability

A modern, web-based interface and effective warnings enable users to confidently understand and act on threats — and know sooner when it's safe to resume operations, maximizing efficiency and productivity.

Standardization and universal access

Standardization across all user operations provides the highest quality lightning data anywhere in the world, with better than 99.99% data availability.

Vaisala Global Lightning Detection Network (GLD360) delivers the most reliable, real-time lightning data available — with global coverage. Ideal for critical onshore and offshore maritime applications, it gives teams the accurate, actionable information they need to maintain safety and operational continuity.

Vaisala GLD360 is fed by a worldwide network of advanced sensors that detect lightning wherever it occurs, on land or in the middle of the sea. Its unmatched detection efficiency and industry-leading location accuracy can detect thunderstorms, track their trajectory and intensity, and support hazardous weather warnings — well beyond the range of radars, standalone sensors, and independent weather networks.

The result is outstanding value across a range of maritime applications, from offshore wind energy development and operation to port management, shipping, and helideck operations. GLD360 data is compatible with most weather monitoring and storm alert systems, including Vaisala Thunderstorm Manager, so maritime operators and port authorities can easily incorporate it into their daily operations.

GLD360 at a glance

Applications

- Offshore platform/substation operations, equipment, or personnel transfer
- Wind farm installation, maintenance, and Wind Turbine Installation Vessel (WTIV) transport operations
- Helipad operations and transportation safety
- Lifting operations, crew exchanges, cargo transfer
- Post-event damage or fire investigations, historical assessments
- Port or near-shore industrial operations, safety protocols, and planning

Key features

Industry-leading detection and accuracy from a global array of advanced lightning sensors — capturing nearly all thunderstorms on Earth

Location accuracy of 1km and detection of more than 2 billion events each year

Real-time data availability (30-second latency)

Flexible data delivery with web-based software supporting automated warnings, or via a real-time data-feed and API; allows for simple integration into existing weather platforms

A single source for coverage that captures detailed lightning data for even the most remote onshore and offshore locations and lets you access it when and where you need it

Why Vaisala?

The industry standard in global lightning data

Vaisala delivers the most accurate real-time and historical lightning data in the world and is trusted by U.S. Defense Forces, the National Weather Service, the Federal Aviation Administration, and commercial safety operations across the planet. Between 2016 and the end of 2020, more than 10 billion lightning events were captured by the GLD360 lightning detection network Vaisala maintains.

Support you can count on

Look to Vaisala for dependable support, project capabilities, and training so you can get the most from your system. With 85+ years of experience providing the best technologies and the finest support, Vaisala's philosophy of partnership is unmatched in the industry.

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