

4.1-P20. Quality Assessment of the Reviewed Event Bulletin – the Next Five Years

Until 2009 the quality control function within the International Data Centre (IDC) of the Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) carried out quality assessments of the Reviewed Event Bulletin (REB) through comparisons with the two other global seismological bulletins, i.e. the Preliminary Determination of Epicenters Monthly Listing of the U.S. Geological Survey and the bulletin of the International Seismological Centre (ISC). The results of the corresponding comparisons with the prestigious ISC bulletin have been published by Koch (2012) for the first eight years since the IDC started official bulletin production in February 2000. In this work we show corresponding results for the following years 2008-2012 of the comparison between the REB and ISC bulletins. As to the location accuracy we find similar results as before in that location differences of common events are in 95% of the cases below 1 degree (and within 0.5 degrees for 90%), even though the number of common events has further increased in recent years to more than 30.000 events/year. The proportion of sole IDC events remained at about one third thereof. Most notably, however, is the significant rise in the number of events that have been discarded by the ISC as fictitious.

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Track Classification: 4. Performance Optimization