



# MINIMET AT THE ROYAL AIR FORCE MUSEUM, COSFORD, UK

In 2004 the Royal Air Force Museum, Cosford installed a Skye MiniMet Weather Station. They provide a graphic output from the weather station in their Interactive area, Fun-n-Flight. This area contains 24 fully interactive displays aimed at children of all ages. The emphasis is on anything to do with aircraft and flying. Their weather station has a graphic output positioned between an air pressure experiment and another on air speed, their volunteer staff members who work in the area are constantly cross referencing between displays.



The MiniMet is somewhat unusual in that Skye developed a software package that gave them a visual representation of what the station was reading, (a “now-cast” of the weather on our Shropshire site.) They also worked with Black Box-AV a Port Talbot based audio visual company who converted Skye signals into visuals. They used photographs of cloud formations on a flash card produced by Black Box-AV as a rotating picture series on screen, these

pictures can be interrupted by pressing a button that reveals the MiniMet graphic output.

In the long term, they have another use in mind. Tying up with their Access and Learning Department, they aim to move into providing weather data for schools. The MiniMet system puts the recorded information into dayfiles which meant that they could select any given period of time, download that into Excel format and e-mail, or supply on disc, the information which the school could then work on with their own computers. This is proving very successful as a source of real data for schools in the Midlands area of the UK.

Another future use for the MiniMet, is a link to the Royal Air Force Museum website, [www.rafmuseum.org](http://www.rafmuseum.org) Visitors will then be able to check on the current weather conditions at Cosford prior to leaving the comfort of their homes.

*Thanks to Peter Bunting at the RAF Museum, Cosford for this article.*

### EQUIPMENT USED

*This museum is using a modular MiniMet weather station. In this situation, they have an air pressure barometer and wind speed and wind direction sensor connected, together with an rht+, Pyranometer and Raingauge.*



### SKYE INSTRUMENTS LTD

21, Ddole Enterprise Park, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6DF, UK

Tel: +44(0)1597 824811 Fax: +44(0)1597 824812

Email: [skyeemail@skyeinstruments.com](mailto:skyeemail@skyeinstruments.com) Web: [www.skyeinstruments.com](http://www.skyeinstruments.com)

