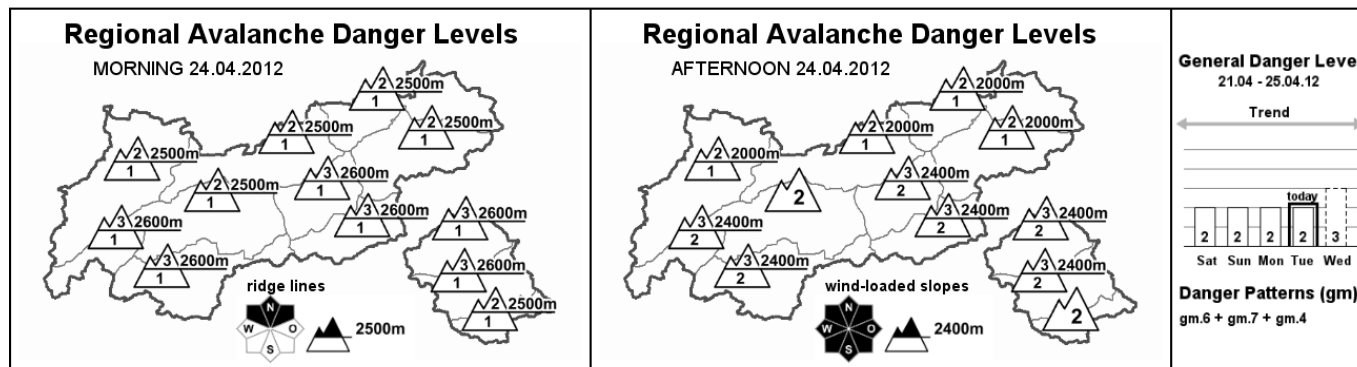


# Avalanche Bulletin

## of the Avalanche Warning Service Tyrol

Tuesday, 24.04.2012, at 07:30



## Escalating avalanche danger due to snowfall and wind

### AVALANCHE DANGER

In the regions along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Tux Alps, considerable avalanche danger prevails above approximately 2600 m; below that altitude the danger level is low. In the remaining regions of Tirol, the danger level above approximately 2500 m is moderate, below that altitude it is low. However, the danger level will rise during the course of the day, as the predicted snowfall sets in. Avalanche prone locations are to be found primarily in the form of freshly formed snowdrift accumulations which, particularly in very steep, ridgeline areas in all aspects and on very steep, shady slopes above approximately 2500 m are a hazard and require caution. The spread and the likelihood of triggering of these drifted masses increase with ascending altitude.

### SNOW LAYERING

The old snowpack is generally moist or wet at low and intermediate altitudes. On the snowpack surface, at very least a thin melt-freeze crust formed last night. At higher altitudes, the old snowpack is predominantly stable; only on shady, very steep slopes where the snow is shallow above approximately 2400 m has a layer of depth hoar formed near the ground in isolated regions along the Main Alpine Ridge in particular which could serve as a bed surface for slab avalanches, in general at the line where the recently fallen snow meets the freshly deposited snowdrift. At altitudes between 2300 and 2500 m, faceted snow crystals have formed in isolated places atop a recent melt-freeze crust (danger pattern: cold following warm). This layer can probably be triggered only by large additional loading in very steep terrain.

### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: Tirol lies in the path of a cold front currently approaching from the west. Simultaneously, a small low pressure system is forming over northern Italy. Tomorrow, a high will dominate; as of Thursday, warmth, with foehn conditions in North Tirol, bringing a dry southwesterly airstream for the weekend. Mountain weather today: wintery. The peaks will be shrouded in cloud, snowfall widespread this morning from the west. The snowfall will be persistent and, on the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Dolomites, heavy. In the Northern Alps, up to 10 cm is expected; towards the Main Alpine Ridge and Southern Alps, as much as 30 cm; from place to place and between the deepest Ötztal and the Tauern, even 40 cm. Tonight, conditions will improve. Temperature at 2000 m: minus 4 degrees; at 3000 m: minus 10 degrees. Southerly winds will slacken off this morning, followed by moderate velocity westerly to northwesterly winds after the cold front passes through this afternoon, intensifying to strong velocity in the Northern Alps.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Many avalanches are expected as of tomorrow due to rising temperatures

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe