



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#); [dp.2 - sliding snow](#)

Snowfall in the south, considerable avalanche danger, beware snowdrift!

AVALANCHE DANGER

In the southern Ötztal and Stubai Alps and in central East Tirol, considerable avalanche danger prevails above the treeline; below that altitude the danger level is moderate, due to the combination of fresh fallen snow and moderate winds at high altitudes which gave rise to new snowdrift accumulations, easy to trigger in steep terrain even by minimum additional loading (ridgeline slopes are particularly threatening). In remaining Tirol the snowfall had little effect on avalanche danger levels, since there was little wind influencing it (general danger level above 2000m, moderate; below that altitude, low). Apart from fresh snowdrift (easily recognized, by and large) avalanches can be released by large additional loading in very steep terrain above 2300m wherever the snow is shallow, particularly on W/NW to N to E/NE facing slopes. Above 2600m the proneness to triggering increases incrementally in all aspects. In East Tirol, full depth snowslides continue to be a hazard.

SNOW LAYERING

There was snowfall in Tirol (most of it near the Brenner, max. 30cm; 10-20 cm in southern and western regions; 5-10cm in northern regions). Winds were generally light, slightly stronger in the south. Avalanches can be triggered at the borderline between fresh snowdrift and loosely packed new fallen snow. Elsewhere, faceted snow crystals beneath crusts could still serve as a potential bed surface for slab avalanches. However, there is little tendency towards fracture propagation.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: following yesterday's snowfall (heaviest on Main Alpine Ridge and on southern flank of the Alps) the sun will come out today, luring skiers and freeriders to the fresh powder. Temperature at 2000m: -6 degrees; at 3000m, -10 degrees. Moderate westerly to northwesterly winds at high altitudes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Strong winds expected tomorrow, raising avalanche danger at high altitudes.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe