RFID tags and reader to measure physical parameters in glacial environment

Original
RFID tags and reader to measure physical parameters in glacial environment / Lucianaz, Claudio; Greco, Giampaolo; Bertoldo, Silvano; Allegretti, Marco; Perona, Giovanni. - STAMPA. - (2015). ((Intervento presentato al convegno III Convegno Nazionale CINFAI tenutosi a Rovereto (TN) nel 14-15 Ottobre 2015.

Availability:
This version is available at: 11583/2620106 since: 2015-10-19T08:08:39Z

Publisher:

Published
DOI:

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RFID tags and reader to measure physical parameters in glacial environment

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EXAMPLE OF APPLICATION

1. Test of capsule impermeability, mechanical strength, transparency to electromagnetic waves

2. Signal straight measurement in free space

3. Radio frequency measurements through the detection of the RSSI (Received Signal Strength Indicator) in air, snow, ice

4. Power link estimation over free air

5. Characterization of temperature sensor in environmental chamber

FIELD TEST

Installation: capsule with tag+sensors at ground surface

Measured parameters:
- temperature (bottom of snowpack), pressure - hourly;
- RSSI - daily.

Control measures (manually executed): temperature (air, bottom of snowpack) - daily; snow depth - daily; snow density - weekly.

Graphical interface that allows communication between reader and tag

Temperature at the base of snowpack has a trend similar to air temperature until the thickness of snowpack is lower than 60 cm. When the cover increases, the temperature is stable and equal to about 0.6°C, according to manual measurements.

REF N. 1: O. Rorato et. al., An ad-hoc RFID tag for glaciers monitoring, IEEE APWC 2014, Palm Beach, Aruba, 3 – 9 August 2014, pp. 864-867

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