How to use e-mail and SMS alerts option correctly.

Reasonable approach towards the problem of notification system offered on the website is very important. Incorrect settings may cause a failure in delivering alert message on time or at all. I suggest saving the custom settings.

Why is it important to define parameters of the monitored location correctly?

When parameters are defined in extreme values, minimal standards may not be met or the alert message may be sent too late.

The following example shows this scenario best. Settings:

- Monitoring radius: **5** km
- Minimal amount of lightnings: **100**
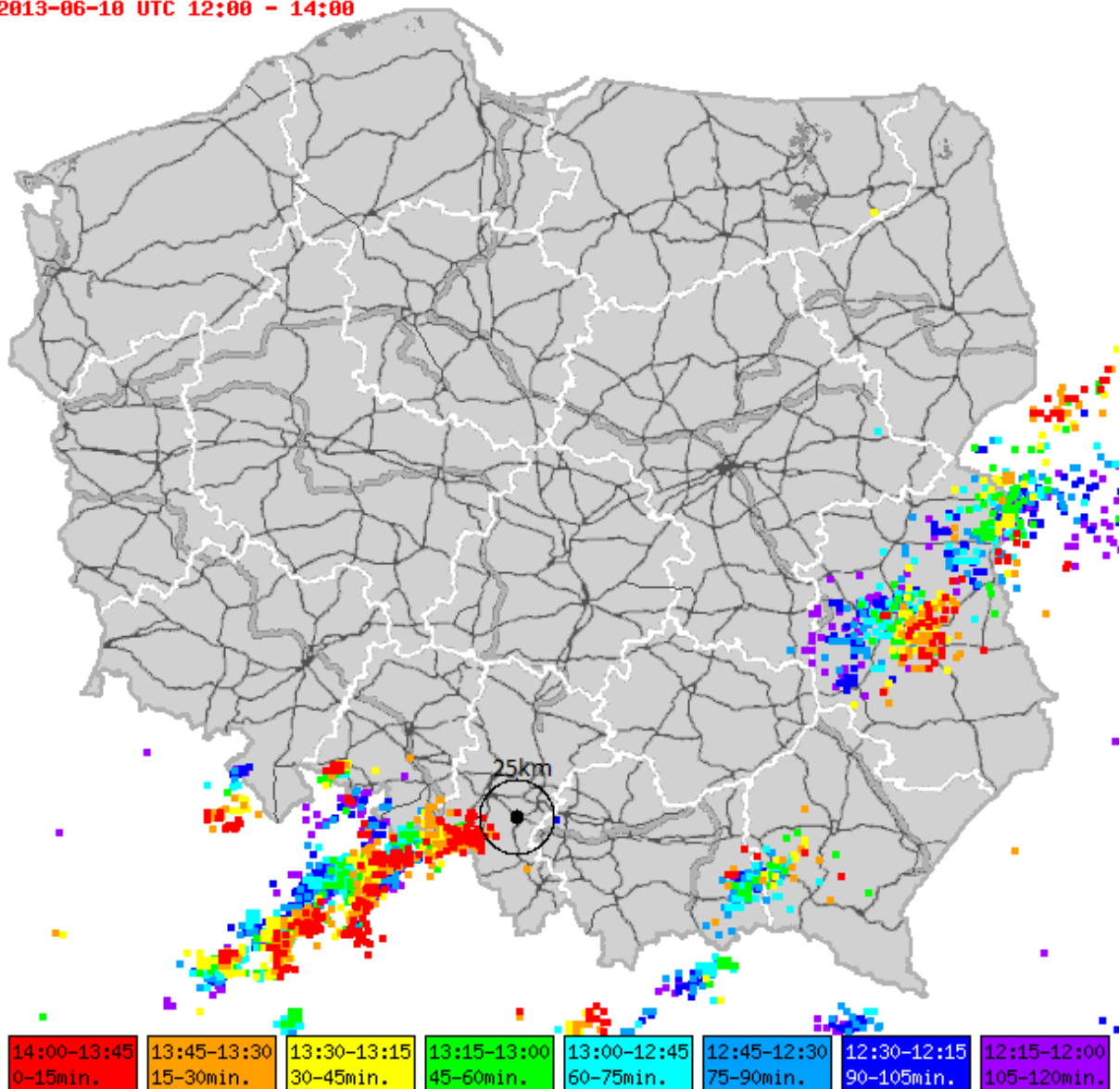- Minimal interval between alerts: **30** minutes

In order to meet the above standards, our location must be struck by a massive thunderstorm. We will receive the alert message when storm appears above our location or in the moment the storm is passing it.

Second example. Settings:

- Monitoring radius: **100** km
- Minimal amount of cloud-to-ground lightnings: **1**
- Minimal interval between alerts: **15** minutes

The above settings will result in receiving alert messages every 15 minutes. If storm appears 100 km from the selected location, after a while alert messages will become monotonous and will lose their effectiveness.

2013-06-10 UTC 12:00 - 14:00

25km

14:00-13:45	13:45-13:30	13:30-13:15	13:15-13:00	13:00-12:45	12:45-12:30	12:30-12:15	12:15-12:00
0-15min.	15-30min.	30-45min.	45-60min.	60-75min.	75-90min.	90-105min.	105-120min.

Description of options

Radius
Radius option defines the area around a location to be monitored. Setting a high value of this parameter may result in sending alert message despite the fact that lightnings appear in a considerable distance from the selected location. Setting a low value of this parameter may cause an enormous delay in sending alert messages. Additionally, if the value representing the minimal amount of lightnings is too high, the alert message may not be received at all. It is advised to remain this option's settings unchanged (custom), which is 25 km.

Minimal amount of cloud-to-ground lightnings
System detects lightnings discharges which are summed up every quarter of a hour. When the value in this option is set to 100, it will result in receiving an alert message after 100 or more discharges are detected in the area covered by the specific radius and in a particular quarter of a hour. It is advised to remain this option's settings unchanged (custom), which is 1 lightning.

Minimal interval

This option allows defining the time after which next alert message can be sent, if secondary lightings are detected in the selected area. Time is measured from the last alert message about lightnings. When the parameter in this option is represented by a little value, it may result in sending alert messages more often. However, if the value is too high, no messages can be delivered although the selected location is struck by another storm. Advised custom value is 3 hours.