VOS MONTHLY REPORT

January 2007

In January 2007, **335 manned and 615 automated** observations were received in average from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUCOS area of interest. These figures may be compared to those of 2002: 400 manned and 321 automated observations were received in average during this year.

EUCOS Automated Weather Stations (AWS)

In January 2007, **three out of the eight Batos AWS stations** funded by EUCOS was operating. The installation of a fourth one (BATEU05) was in progress.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20070119	281	
BATEU01	CP Venture	UK	20070131	446	
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20070131	474	
BATEU03		DE			Lent to DWD for evaluation
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK			
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK			Should be installed in Feb. 2007
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK			
BATEU07	Juan de la Costa	SP			

Inmarsat-C Half Compression trial

Four conventional VOS fitted with the most recent version of TurboWin (version 4), were reporting their observations through Aussaguel SAC 412 instead of SAC 41 in January 2007. Received at Météo-France their raw data are uncompressed, coded in FM-13 SHIP messages and sent onto the GTS. The data transmission costs twice less than through SAC 41.

Ident.	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
TBWAA01	20061230	1	Less than 10 reports during the month
TBWAA02	20070131	35	
TBWFR00	20070131	40	
TBWFR02	20070131	191	

Masked call sign trial

Since mid-2006, E-SURFMAR is performing a masked call sign trial carried out accordingly to WMO Resolution 7 (EC-LVIII). The purpose is to avoid the availability of VOS ship's positions and identifications on public websites not controlled by National Meteorological Services. Messages reported onto the GTS by VOS participating in this E-SURFMAR trial report are fitted with unique

identifiers which are different from their ITU call signs. All EUCOS funded AWS, as well as conventional ships participating in the half compression trial, have their call signs masked. More and more AWS systems operated by E-SURFMAR participants have also their identifiers masked. By the end of January 2007, **39 AWS and 4 conventional VOS** were participating in this trial.

Useful links

Monthly QC statistics and other quality cotrol tools are available at:
http://www.meteo.shom.fr/vos-monitoring/

A "blacklist" of EUMETNET VOS reporting dubious air pressure values is displayed at:
http://www.meteo.shom.fr/qctools/evblackap.htm
VOS operators (focal points) and PMOs are invited to check whether their ships are not in this list and to take appropriate actions to correct possible problems if any.

Graphs of system performances may be downloaded at:
http://esurfmar.meteo.fr/doc/r/surfmar/others/e-surfmar_monitoring.pdf

The working area of the E-SURFMAR website is open at http://esurfmar.meteo.fr/wikisurf-wa/ . Ask the E-SURFMAR Programme Manager Pierre.Blouch@meteo.fr for the password in case you forgot it.

The "official" E-SURFMAR website (http://esurfmar.meteo.fr/) is still under construction. A part of it is used as a repository for articles relating to marine observing activities which are likely to be of interest to observers on VOS as well as others involved in marine meteorological and oceanographic activities. Their homepage is http://esurfmar.meteo.fr/wikisurf/index.php/Marine_Observing_Articles .