



VOS MONTHLY REPORT

March 2007

In March 2007, **288 manned and 682 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 320 automated observations were received in average during this year.

EUCOS Automated Weather Stations (AWS)

In March 2007, four **out of the eight Batos AWS stations** funded by EUCOS reported their observations onto the GTS.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20070331	447	
BATEU01	CP Venture	UK	20070309	140	No message received since 9 th of March
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20070331	547	
BATEU03		DE			Lent to DWD for evaluation
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK			Should be installed soon
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20070326	516	
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 February 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	20070329	12	
TBWFR00	20070312	46	De-recruited on March 13 th
TBWFR01	20070331	44	
TBWFR02	20070330	185	

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

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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. In March 2007, **4 conventional VOS and 48 shipborne AWS** (35 Batos, 12 Minos and 1 Avos) participated in this trial.

Useful links

Monthly QC statistics and other quality control 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 new EUCOS Management Team re-opened the EUCOS Web site (<http://www.eucos.net/>) on March 30th. Contrarily to the previous site, a part of the new one is unrestricted. It contains static pages describing the programme and its operational components: E-AMDAR, E-ASAP, E-SURFMAR. It is proposed to use the new EUCOS web site to “officially” present E-SURFMAR. A redirection will be created to this new site from the present homepage of E-SURFMAR and a new wiki site will be set up for the repository of articles related to marine observing activities.