



VOS MONTHLY REPORT

April 2007

In April 2007, **314 manned and 692 automated** observations were received in average from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUCOS area of interest. A level never reached before for shipborne AWS stations. 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 April 2007, **three Batos AWS stations** out of the eight funded by EUCOS in 2005 and 2006 reported their observations onto the GTS.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20070430	452	
BATEU01	CP Venture	UK			No message received since 9 th of March
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20070430	505	
BATEU03		DE			Lent to DWD for evaluation
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK			Should be installed soon
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20070430	310	
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK			
BATEU07	Juan de la Costa	SP			

Inmarsat-C Half Compression trial

Three 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 April 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
TBWAA02	20070430	15	
TBWFR01	20070430	23	
TBWFR02	20070430	137	

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 April 2007, **3 conventional VOS and 45 shipborne AWS** (33 Batos and 12 Minos) participated in this trial.

Useful links

The working area of the E-SURFMAR website <http://esurfmar.meteo.fr/wikisurf-wa/> is the place where you can get a lot of informations about the programme in general and its components (data buoys and VOS). Ask the E-SURFMAR Programme Manager Pierre.Blouch@meteo.fr for the password in case you forgot it. Notice you can participate in providing your own information to the PM or in writing directly on the website. This latest facility , easy to handle, may be provided to volunteers.

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.

New:

- A list of European AWS is available at <http://www.meteo.shom.fr/qctools/last-report-list.htm>. Updated every day, this list gives for each station: its operating country; the date of its first report (after July 2004); the date of its last report - in red for those which have not reported for more than 2 weeks - ; etc...
- The individual ship pages have been improved. New links are available, more especially on some Met Office products: blacklists and graphs of differences with model outputs during the previous month for ships present in the blacklist.

Graphs of system performances may be downloaded at:

http://esurfmar.meteo.fr/doc/r/surfmar/others/e-surfmar_monitoring.pdf

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.