



VOS MONTHLY REPORT

December 2009

In December 2009, **264 manned and 1046 automated observations** were received in average per day from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUCOS area of interest (404 conventional VOS and 86 AWS).

EUCOS Automated Weather Stations (AWS)

During the month, **six BaTos AWS stations**, out of the eight funded by EUCOS in 2005 and 2006, reported their observations onto the GTS. This includes the station installed aboard Mississauga Express on the 4th of December.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20091231	452	
BATEU01	Toronto Express	UK	20091231	449	
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20091221	252	
BATEU03		DE			Returned to Meteo-France
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK			Not yet installed
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20091228	314	
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK	20091229	490	
BATEU07	Mississauga Exp.	FR	20091231	297	Installed on December 4th

Remarks: BATEU00, BATEU05 and BATEU07 do not measure SST but it is not a priority to do this. BATEU02 and BATEU06 have not reported air humidity since the 23rd of September. Investigations are ongoing to see what happens.

Eight BaRos AWS stations installed on E-ASAP ships and one installed on a Greek ship were correctly working during the month.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BAREU00	Atlantic Compass	EU	20091231	571	
BAREU02	Hornbay	EU			E-ASAP operations ended on Nov. 21st
BAREU04	Alantic Companion	EU	20091231	605	
BAREU05	Power	EU	20091231	574	
BAREU06	Endurance	EU	20091231	495	
BAREU07	Naja Arctica	EU	20091231	469	
BAREU08	Liverpool Express	EU	20091231	562	
BAREU09	Nuka Arctica	EU	20091231	591	
BAREU50	Greek ship	EU	20091222	233	The ship was sold. Her BaRos will be re-used on another ship.

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Inmarsat-C Half Compression trial

The last VOS, recruited by Meteo-France and fitted with version 4 of TurboWin, which reported her observations through Aussaguel SAC 412 resumed her operations in December.

Ident.	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
TBWFR02	20090831	192	

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 or not, have their call signs masked. More and more AWS systems operated by E-SURFMAR participants have also their identifiers masked. In December 2009, **18 conventional VOS** (9 British, 7 Dutch and 2 French) **and 69 shipborne AWS** (1 Avos, 8 BaRos, 49 BaTos, 1 Deck Drifter and 10 Minos) participating in this trial, reported onto the GTS.

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 henceforth available at:
<http://www.meteo.shom.fr/qctools/>

A "blacklist" of EUMETNET VOS reporting dubious air pressure values is displayed at:

<http://www.meteo.shom.fr/qctools/sevblackap.htm> << [New link](#)

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.

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 August 2004); the date of its last report - in red for those which have not reported for more than 2 weeks - ; etc...

Graphs of system performances may be downloaded at:

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

The official E-SURFMAR webpages are henceforth on the EUCOS Web site (<http://www.eucos.net/>). Choose "EUCOS Networks" then "E-SURFMAR" in the left menu.