



## **VOS MONTHLY REPORT**

**March 2010**

In March 2010, **281 manned and 975 automated observations** were received in average per day from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUCOS area of interest (409 conventional VOS and 85 AWS).

### **EUCOS Automated Weather Stations (AWS)**

During the month, **five BaTos AWS stations**, out of the eight funded by EUCOS in 2005 and 2006, reported their observations onto the GTS.

<b>Ident.</b>	<b>Ship's name</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>Last rep.</b>	<b>nobs</b>	<b>Remark</b>
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20100323	269	
BATEU01	Toronto Express	UK	20100331	245	AWS repaired
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR			Unused
BATEU03		DE			Returned to Meteo-France
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK			Not yet installed
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20100331	330	Back in operation
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK	20100303	33	
BATEU07	Mississauga Exp.	FR	20100330	365	

Remarks: BATEU00, BATEU05 and BATEU07 do not measure SST but it is not a priority to do this. Italian RV Urania was visited at the beginning of February. She should be equipped with a BaTos in 2010.

**Eight BaRos AWS stations** installed on E-ASAP ships were correctly working during the month.

<b>Ident.</b>	<b>Ship's name</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>Last rep.</b>	<b>nobs</b>	<b>Remark</b>
BAREU00	Atlantic Compass	EU	20100331	528	
BAREU04	Atlantic Companion	EU	20100331	610	
BAREU05	Power	EU	20100331	570	
BAREU06	Endurance	EU	20100331	534	
BAREU07	Naja Arctica	EU	20100331	504	
BAREU08	Liverpool Express	EU	20100331	542	
BAREU09	Nuka Arctica	EU	20100331	231	
BAREU11	Dublin Express	EU	20100331	442	
BAREU52	Aegean Sky	EU	20100331	347	

### **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 last December.

<b>Ident.</b>	<b>Last rep.</b>	<b>nobs</b>	<b>Remark</b>
TBWFR02	20100331	146	

### **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 March 2010, **25 conventional VOS** (13 British, 10 Dutch and 2 French) **and 70 shipborne AWS** (9 BaRos, 51 BaTos 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](mailto: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](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.