



VOS MONTHLY REPORT

February 2011

In February 2011, **338 manned and 1159 automated observations** were received in average per day from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUCOS area of interest (423 conventional VOS and 91 AWS).

EUCOS Automated Weather Stations (AWS)

During the month, **nine BaTos AWS stations**, out of the twelve funded by EUCOS in 2005 and 2006, reported their observations onto the GTS. Another station should be installed onboard Italian RV Unrania at the beginning of March.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20110228	173	
BATEU01	Toronto Express	UK	20110228	498	
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20110228	422	
BATEU03	Celtic Voyager	IR	20110222	218	
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK	20110227	334	
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20110228	274	
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK	20110228	484	
BATEU07	Mississauga Exp.	FR	20110228	400	
BATEU08	Naja Arctica	DK	20110220	369	
BATEU09	Urania	FR			Should be installed in March 2011

Seven BaRos AWS stations installed on E-ASAP ships and **six** installed on other ships were correctly working during the month.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BAREU00	Atlantic Compass	EU	20110228	573	
BAREU04	Alantic Companion	EU	20110228	446	
BAREU05	Power	EU	20110228	471	
BAREU06	Endurance	EU	20110228	465	
BAREU07	Naja Arctica	EU	20110227	265	Will be dismantled soon (BaTos now operating)
BAREU08	Liverpool Express	EU	20110228	497	
BAREU09	Nuka Arctica	EU	20110207	125	Dismounted (Nuka Arctica has now a BaTos)
BAREU11	Dublin Express	EU	20110228	504	
BAREU51	La Superba	IT	20110228	479	
BAREU54	Douce France	FR	20110228	312	
BAREU55	Hellenic Master	GR			Ship seems out of commission in Piraeus
BAREU56	Jolly Indaco	FR	20110228	365	
BAREU57	Pontos	CY	20110228	385	
BAREU58	Louis Majesty	CY	20110228	134	
BAREU59	Tenacia	IT	20110228	356	Installed in February

Inmarsat-C Half Compression trial

No ship used the half compressed message technique in February but KNMI carried out some tests. The technique could be widely used in the coming months.

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 February 2011, **22 conventional VOS** (18 British and 4 Dutch) **and 79 shipborne AWS** (14 BaRos, 54 BaTos, 8 Minos, 2 deck drifters and one Scaws) 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>

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 September 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.