



## **VOS MONTHLY REPORT**

**April 2011**

In April 2011, **349 manned and 1127 automated observations** were received in average per day from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUCOS area of interest (418 conventional VOS and 96 AWS).

### **News**

SOT-6 was held in Hobart on 11-15 April. The E-SURFMAR activities and metadata database were presented as well as the monitoring tools.

Among new features, the metadata database now includes the handling of inspection reports, ship's contact details, recruitment requests and platforms and rigs metadata as well as direct links to marinetraffic.com website to track individual VOS.

The monitoring tools were also upgraded. They now includes monthly statistics and data plots of the transmission delays, a blacklist of ships reporting dubious positions and the editing of quality reports for individual ships to be given to the observers.

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

During the month, **ten BaTos AWS stations**, out of the twelve 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	20110414	143	Failed on April 14th ?
BATEU01	Toronto Express	UK	20110430	435	Operations resumed
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20110428	293	
BATEU03	Celtic Voyager	IR	20110430	213	
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK	20110430	281	
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20110430	197	
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK	20110430	210	
BATEU07	Mississauga Exp.	FR	20110430	454	
BATEU08	Naja Arctica	DK	20110430	474	
BATEU09	Urania	FR	20110430	507	

**Seven BaRos AWS** stations installed on E-ASAP ships **and seven** installed on other ships reported their data onto the GTS in April.

<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	20110430	540	
BAREU04	Alantic Companion	EU	20110430	579	
BAREU05	Power	EU	20110430	509	

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BAREU06	Endurance	EU	20110430	332	
BAREU07	Naja Arctica	EU	20110403	54	Dismounted on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> of April
BAREU08	Liverpool Express	EU	20110430	508	
BAREU11	Dublin Express	EU	20110430	555	
BAREU51	La Superba	IT	20110430	435	
BAREU54	Douce France	FR	20110430	458	
BAREU55	Hellenic Master	GR			Ship seems out of commission in Piraeus
BAREU56	Jolly Indaco	FR	20110410	50	Failed on April 10th
BAREU57	Pontos	CY	20110430	407	
BAREU58	Louis Majesty	CY	20110430	417	
BAREU59	Tenacia	IT	20110430	153	
BAREU60	Dubrovnik	HR	20110430	291	

### Inmarsat-C Half Compression trial

KNMI started the deployment of the half compression technique on their ships in April. The first message was sent on April 8th. Raw data messages are sent through Inmarsat-C (Borum LES - SAC 431) and processed at Meteo-France for GTS transmission. Two ships (callsigns PDHY and OXHY2) reported 74 compressed messages at all.

### 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.

The E-SURFMAR metadata database address is <http://esurfmar.meteo.fr/doc/vosmetadata/>. This database contains the most recently updated WMO Pub47 metadata of the global WMO VOS fleet. Every day, extracts from the database are made available at <ftp://esurfmar.meteo.fr/pub/Pub47/>.

Monthly QC statistics and other quality control tools are 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...

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.