



VOS MONTHLY REPORT
 March 2014

In March 2014, **261 manned and 1872 automated observations** were received in average per day from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUMETNET observation area of interest (346 conventional VOS and 124 Shipborne Automatic Weather Stations (S-AWS)).

Since mid-February, FM13 messages received at KNMI through Inmarsat-C (Borum station operated by Stratos), or by email, are forwarded to Meteo-France. There, they are transmitted onto the GTS under headers S_[M,I,N]V_[A-Z]14 LFPW. In parallel they are converted in BUFR and transmitted in that format.

EUMETNET Automated Weather Stations (AWS)

During March, **ten AWS stations**, out of the thirteen funded by EUMETNET, reported their observations onto the GTS.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20140331	382	
BATEU01	Toronto Express	UK	20140331	411	
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20140331	424	
BATEU03	Celtic Voyager	IR	20140331	291	
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK	20131110		Stopped transmitting in November
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20140324	29	
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK	20140331	380	
BATEU07	Mississauga Exp.	UK	20130331	435	
BATEU08	Naja Arctica	DK	20140331	513	
BATEU09	Urania	FR	20140331	406	
BATEU10	Cap Finisterre	FR	20140331	376	

Seven BaRos AWS stations installed on E-ASAP ships **and twelve** installed on other ships or on Cycofos moored buoy reported their data onto the GTS in March. Three stations are BaRos+. In addition to air pressure, they normally report air temperature, air humidity and wind. In order to correctly measure the wind, the sonic anemometer must be well exposed. It seems this is not the case here for two out of them. Wind observations have been removed from the GTS for these meanwhile better exposures are found. The observations of the Cycofos buoy (WMO 120050) are no longer counted among BaRos S-AWS observations. The status of this station is henceforth reported in the data buoy report.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BAREU00	Atlantic Compass	EU	20140331	614	
BAREU04	Alantic Companion	EU	20140331	563	
BAREU08	Liverpool Express	EU	20140331	591	
BAREU11	Dublin Express	EU	20140331	453	
BAREU12	Atlantic Conveyor	EU	20140331	574	
BAREU13	Ottawa Express	EU	20140331	600	
BAREU14	Atlantic Cartier	EU	20140331	546	
BAREU51	La Superba	IT	20140327	248	BaRos+ (Gill MetPak-II) - No wind reports
BAREU58	Louis Majesty	CY	20140331	247	
BAREU60	Dubrovnik	HR	20140331	34	
BAREU62	Daniel A	IT	20140331	407	
BAREU65	Agean Dignity	GR	20140331	384	
BAREU66	Excellent	IT	20140331	602	
BAREU67	Hilde A	IT	20140331	470	BaRos+ S-AWS (WXT520). - No wind reports
BAREU69	LNG Lirici	IT	20140321	78	
BAREU70	Marguerite A	IT	20140331	412	

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BAREU71	Sete Cidades	PT	20140331	323	BaRos+ (MetPak-II) - Reliable wind reports
BAREU72	Natalia A	IT	20140331	358	

Inmarsat-C Half Compression deployment

KNMI continued to deploy the half compression technique on their conventional VOS. Raw data messages sent through Inmarsat-C (Borum LES - SAC 431) are processed at Meteo-France for GTS transmission. Met Office also started the deployment of the technique on UK recruited VOS. In March, 20 conventional VOS reported a total of **535** half compressed messages.

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.

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.meteo2.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.meteo2.shom.fr/qctools/last-report-list_surfmar.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 may be seen at <http://www.eumetnet.eu/e-surfmar/>.