



VOS MONTHLY REPORT

March 2016

In March 2016, **188 manned and 2162 automated observations** were received in average per day from EUMETNET ships operating in the EUMETNET observation area of interest (282 conventional VOS and 135 Shipborne Automatic Weather Stations (S-AWS)).

All ship observations managed by European NMS are now sent onto the GTS in FM94 BUFR format. Native BUFR are made by Meteo-France for BaTos, BaRos and EUCAWS stations, as well as for conventional VOS using the half compression technique. Other data are the result of a FM13 to BUFR conversion. Template TM308009, presently used, should be replaced with template TM308014 within a few months. For more information... see <https://software.ecmwf.int/wiki/display/TCBUF/E-SURFMAR>

EUMETNET Automated Weather Stations (AWS)

During March, **nine BaTos AWS stations** installed onboard ships reported their observations onto the GTS.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BATEU00	Mary Arctica	DK	20160331	175	
BATEU01	Toronto Express	UK	20160331	658	
BATEU02	Celtic Explorer	IR	20160331	531	
BATEU03	Celtic Voyager	IR	20160331	649	
BATEU04	Nuka Arctica	DK	20160222		No observations in March
BATEU05	Irena Arctica	DK	20160331	290	
BATEU06	Montreal Express	UK	20160331	433	
BATEU07	Mississauga Exp.	UK	20160331	383	
BATEU08	Naja Arctica	DK	20160331	468	
BATEU10	Cap Finisterre	FR	20160331	602	
BATEU11	Minerva Uno	IT			Installed in Sept. 2015. Waiting for sensors.

Six BaRos AWS stations installed on E-ASAP ships **and eleven** installed on other ships reported their data onto the GTS in March. Three stations were 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.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
BAREU00	Atlantic Compass	EU	20160331	553	
BAREU08	Liverpool Express	EU	20160331	371	
BAREU11	Dublin Express	EU	20160331	581	
BAREU12	Atlantic Conveyor	EU	20160331	599	
BAREU13	Ottawa Express	EU	20160331	617	
BAREU14	Atlantic Cartier	EU	20160331	601	Re-installed
BAREU15	Atlantic Star	EU			To be installed
BAREU51	La Superba	IT	20160330	386	BaRos+ (Gill MetPak-II)
BAREU60	Dubrovnik	HR	20160331	115	
BAREU62	Daniel A	IT	20160331	440	
BAREU65	Aegean Dignity	GR	20160331	639	
BAREU66	Excellent	IT	20160331	468	
BAREU67	Hilde A	IT	20160331	451	BaRos+ S-AWS (WXT520). - No wind reports
BAREU70	Marguerite A	IT	20160331	426	
BAREU71	Sete Cidades	PT	20150331	391	BaRos+ (MetPak-II)
BAREU72	Natalia A	IT	20160331	385	
BAREU74	Ayse	IT	20160331	453	
BAREU75	Horace A	IT	20160331	507	BaRos+ (MetPak-II) - Acceptable wind reports

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The “**Deck Drifter**” put onboard French Navy ship Fulmar operating from Saint-Pierre et Miquelon (south of Newfoundland) reported a few observations in March.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
IDDEU03	Fulmar	EU	20160309	58	
IDDEUAE	??	EU	20160330	90	Drifting buoy picked up by Azores fishermen

No **EUCAWS** prototype was operating in March.

Ident.	Ship's name	CC	Last rep.	nobs	Remark
EUCEU02	Lagarfoss	EU	20160106		No observations in March

Inmarsat-C Half Compression technique

Raw data messages sent through Inmarsat-C (Burm 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, 9 conventional VOS reported a total of **425** 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_vos.html

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/>.