

NATIONAL PRACTICES REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF NAVAL DATA

Australia

The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) collects some 2,000 XBTs per year in its area of operations. This data is inserted onto the GTS (including ship's call sign). The RAN typically deploys Sippican T-10 and T-4 probes, using Sippican MK12 recorders. The full resolution data undergoes quality control at the Australian Oceanographic Data Centre (AODC) upon retrieval from the vessels, and is eventually submitted to the international archives (timeframe 2-3 years). The RAN also supports the Australian Ship-Of-Opportunity Programme, by supplying 2,500 Sippican Deep Blue XBTs each year to the national operators (CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology) for distribution by participating merchant vessels.

Canada

The Canadian Navy collects oceanographic data using XBTs and some of these data are forwarded to MEDS for processing. In 1999 we received 2831 stations from 69 cruises of 14 ships. They use Sippican probes, of type T7 and T5. MEDS also receives sound velocity profiles and these are archived. Data come mostly in analogue form and are digitized by MEDS. The data are sent to MEDS roughly every 2 months.

Germany

There exists an agreement between the German Navy and BSH that the Navy's BATHY coded data should be sent to BSH for submission into GTS without ship call sign or ID and not earlier than 14 days after given measurement has been carried out. In practice BSH receives data about once or twice per month so that about 3/4 or more of the Navy's data meet the real-time frame for GTS submission. Data older than 30 days are sent to MEDS, all others are submitted by BSH into GTS immediately and thus without quality control. The German Navy uses a large variety of shipboard units of different makes and different probe types. In 1999 some 1600 BATHYs from different areas of the Atlantic Ocean have been submitted into GTS.

Japan

* **XBT** Data provider: *Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (Defense Agency)*
 data type: *subsurface temperature at the significant depths*
 data transmission: *via internet to JMA, JFA, Japan Coast Guard*
 transmission mode: *on the real time basis (in around a week after observations)*
 delayed mode transmission:

to JODC with the data of a whole year (once/year)

data amount: (received at JMA) data number

Oct. 1999 1,401

Nov.1999 2,039

Dec.1999 597

Jan.2000 510

Feb.2000 768

Mar.2000 1,188

a condition for use: *only for its own analysis (so cannot put the data into GTS)*

** JMA: Japan Meteorological Agency
JFA: Japan Fisheries Agency
JODC: Japan Oceanographic Data Center

Russian Federation

All types of oceanographic data (hydrophysical, hydrochemical, hydrobiological), no matter what agency they originate from, are put into international exchange only through the Russian National Oceanographic Data Centre based in Obninsk and headed by Nikolai Mikhailov. For three years in the late 90's, the Russian NODC used to send the unclassified navy bathythermographic data to MEDS, Canada. This kind of data constituted only a few percent of the total amount of the presented data. Later, this project was suspended. Nowadays, in Mr. Mikhailov's words, they are inclined to resume inclusion of navy bathythermographic data into the data packages for exchange.

United States

United States Navy Data Release Policy

The Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO) is the US Navy's central collection point for oceanographic data. NAVOCEANO maintains the Navy's Master Oceanographic Observation Data Set, which is an archive for physical oceanographic data collected over the past 130 years. NAVOCEANO releases archived XBT and CTD profiles through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC). During the period from 1995 to 1999 NAVOCEANO released approximately 333,000 XBT and CTD profiles to NODC for archive and distribution. In addition, data collected by NAVOCEANO's drifting data buoy program is released to the Global Telecommunications System in real-time. These data include sea surface temperature, air temperature, barometric pressure, and in a few cases, subsurface temperature and salinity.