ASAP Report for 2009 **(France)**

a. Catalogue of ASAP vessels in 2009 (see Appendix 3):

b. Major challenges and difficulties:
During this year, we experienced some problems with the Modem SR2K2 stations aboard both ships. **In April on the ASFR1 and in September on the ASFR2, due to a problem of training, no operator was in situation to be able to launch.**

b. Other comments:
Beginning of 2010, we install two new ships (Fort Saint Georges and Fort Sainte Marie) on the same line. Soundings will start by February. **We also plan to replace Modem SR2K2 stations by new ones aboard ASFR1 and ASFR2. So, all the four ships will have the same station.**

d. ASAP Performance

Callsign	Total number of sondes launched	Number of TEMP SHIP transmitted	Number of relaunches	Average terminal sounding height (km)	Balloon size (gm)	Percentage on GTS (see note)
ASFR1	280	254	2	23,7	300	Toulouse: 95,7%
ASFR2	316	265	6	22,3	300	Toulouse : 93,2%

Percentage on the GTS is the ratio of reports received against reports transmitted, and is based upon reports received at a data centre or GTS insertion point (name)

Appendix 3. Catalogue of ships participating in ASAP in 2009. **(France)**

French ASAP units operated during the year on 2 ships

Type of ship (1)	Ship name	Callsign	Comms method (2)	Windfind method / sonde type (3)	Launch method (4)	Launch height (5)	Area of operation (6)	ASAP unit ID No.
Merchant	Fort Saint Louis	ASFR1	Inmarsat C	GPS 3D Modem M2K2 DC	Deck Launcher (fixed)	27 m	Atlantic	
Merchant	Fort Saint Pierre	ASFR2	Inmarsat C	GPS 3D Modem M2K2 DC	Deck Launcher (fixed)	27 m	Atlantic	

(1) Type of ship: Merchant, research, supply
(2) Comms method: Inmarsat C or others
(3) Windfind method / sonde type: eg. GPS/Vaisala RS80-G, Loran/Vaisala RS80-L, VIZ GPS Mark II Microsonde, etc
(4) Launch method: deck launcher (portable), deck launcher (fixed), container (manual), container (semi automatic), other
(5) Launch height: height above sea level from where the sonde is released
(6) Ocean area: North Pacific, North Atlantic, Indian Ocean, variable