

VOS and VOSClim Report for 2009

FRANCE

a. Programme description:		
Category	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2009	Comments
<i>Selected</i>	68	
<i>Supplementary</i>		
<i>Auxiliary</i>		
<i>Other (specify)</i>		
Total National VOS Fleet	68	

b. VOS:	
<i>Number of VOS vessels recruited in 2009</i>	6
<i>Number of VOS vessels de-recruited in 2009</i>	3
<i>Target number of ships in the national VOS Fleet</i>	~70

c. VOSClim:	
<i>Number of VOSClim vessels at 31 December 2009</i>	47
<i>Number of VOSClim vessels recruited in 2009</i>	28
<i>Number of VOSClim de-recruitments in 2009</i>	1
<i>Number of VOSClim recruitments planned for 2010</i>	0
<i>Target number of ships to participate in VOSClim</i>	48

d. Automated observing systems:				
Type	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2009	Manual Input Yes / No	Method of Comms	2010 Planned installations
BATOS	56	Yes	Inmarsat C	7
MINOS	8	no	Argos	0

e. Data management:	
<i>Total number of ship observations (BBXX) distributed on the GTS in 2009</i>	182 079
<i>Frequency of VOS data submitted to the GCC in 2009</i>	quarterly

f. Electronic logbooks: (do not include AWS-based systems)		
Software & version	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2009	Implementation/upgrade plans
BATOS 4	34	The sotware BATOS 4 will be implemented gradually from 2009. This version will allow later to send messages via IRRIDIUM.
BATOS 3	21	0
BATOS 2	1	0
Turbowin	4	0

g. Major challenges and difficulties:

Manual observations have been regularly decreasing these last years. One of our challenge is to find out how to stabilize or increase manual observations. To do so, Météo-France is thinking about how to improve meteorological training for observers aboard VOS.

h. Research / development / testing:

i. Other comments: