

VOS Report for 2010

AUSTRALIA

a. Programme description:				
Category	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2010	Recruitments in 2010	De-recruitments In 2010	Comments
<i>Selected</i>	56	9	11	
<i>Selected AWS</i>	9	1		
<i>VOSclim</i>	9			
<i>VOSclim AWS</i>				
<i>Supplementary</i>				
<i>Supplementary AWS</i>				
<i>Auxiliary</i>	1			
<i>Auxiliary AWS</i>				
<i>Other</i>				
National VOS Total	75			

National VOS Target	100
National VOSclim Target	20

b. Data management:	
<i>Total number of ship observations (BBXX) distributed on the GTS in 2010</i>	61,950 (~1200 Masked)
<i>Frequency of VOS data submitted to the GCC in 2010</i>	4 (January, April, July, October)

c. Shipboard Automatic Weather System				
Type	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2010	Manual Input Yes / No	Method of Comms	2011 Planned installations
Vaisala Milos 500	8	Yes	Inmarsat (data mode)	
Other	1		Independent sensors using independent TX systems	

f. Electronic logbooks: (TurboWin, SEAS, OBSJMA)		
Software & version	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2010	Implementation plans
TurboWin 3.6	8	
TurboWin 4.0	24	
TurboWin 4.5	25	

g. Major challenges and difficulties:

The transient nature of shipping in the Southern Hemisphere remains a major concern, resulting in limited recruitment opportunities.

The use of non-English speaking crews further limits recruitment opportunities and also creates difficulties understanding instructions.

h. Research / development / testing:

The Bureau has started to consider a replacement strategy for its ageing network of ShipAWS.

The Bureau is seriously considering developing software to display a barograph trace from a Vaisala electronic barometer. It is intended that the software will be installed on the same (Bureau supplied) laptop that is running TurboWin. There is then the potential for TurboWin to accept automatic pressure and tendency values from this new software. The development of this software will obviate the need to provide ships with costly barographs that are becoming increasingly difficult to maintain and procure.

i. Other comments: