

ASAP Report for 2010

Japan

a. Catalogue of ASAP vessels in 2010 (see Appendix 3):

b. Major challenges and difficulties:

The Japanese ASAP fleet has changed.

Three ships (Kofu Maru, Seifu Maru, Chofu Maru) were decommissioned in Mar 2010, so that only two ships (Ryofu Maru, Mirai) are of Japanese ASAP fleet since April 2010.

Kofu Maru made only four observations, Seifu Maru and Chofu Maru made no observation in 2010.

b. Other comments:

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)
JGQH	78	72	6	23.2	350	100
JNSR	575	573	2	23.2	200	100
JDWX	4	4	0	20.6	350	100

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 2010.

Japan

..... ASAP units operated during the year on 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.
Research ship	Ryofu Maru	JGQH	Others (DCP via the MTSAT)	GPS/Vaisala RS92- SGP	Container (Semi- automatic)	8m	North Pacific	N/A (JMA system)
Research ship	Mirai	JNSR	Inmarsat-C	GPS/Vaisala RS92- SGP	Container (Semi- automatic)	18m	Variable	N/A (JAMSTEC system)
Research ship	Kofu Maru	JDWX	Others (DCP via the MTSAT)	GPS/Vaisala RS92- SGP	Container (Semi- automatic)	6m	Seas adjacent to Japan	N/A (JMA system)

(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