

SOOP Report for 2011

(Australia)

a. Programme description:			
Line	Agency	Sampling programme and target mode (if applicable)	No. of ships
IX01	ABOM	FRX+	1
IX12	ABOM	FRX	5
PX11/IX22	ABOM	FRX	2
PX02	ABOM	FRX	2
IX28	CMAR	HDX, SST/SSS, pCO ₂ , TCO ₂ , alkalinity, pigments, fluorescence, macronutrients	1
PX30	CMAR	HDX	3
PX34	CMAR	HDX	2
	RAN	XBT for operational requirements and or hydrographical surveying	

b. Data management		
Agency	No. of JJVV messages on the GTS in 2011	Location of delayed-mode data
ABOM	2087	US NODC
CMAR	962	US NODC
RAN	1002	US NODC

c. Major challenges and difficulties:

RAN: difficulties in reconciling delayed-mode data returns with GTS messages due to use of SHIP as the call sign.

CMAR: Ships on the HDX lines were unstable during 2011. The Buxlink and a new ship, the Conti Harmony, were used to cover PX34 this year. The Buxlink went offline in August. PX30 was also a problem, with two ships (Schelde Trader and Sofrana Surville) needed to cover one section. Both ships started in Noumea. The Florence (PX30) went offline mid-year. The June/July trip was missed on PX30 due to ship changes.

BOM: Maintaining the full network of XBT ships is a major and on-going concern, with the number of ships dropping to 4 (the optimal network is 10 ships) late in the year.

d. Research / development / testing:

CMAR: The XBT fall rates are a continuing focus of our attention with Rebecca Cowley leading the analysis. A paper on the work will be submitted soon. More XBT/CTD inter-comparisons are being done in 2012 using the Southern Surveyor and Aurora Australis to add to the database of pairs.

BOM: Has been investigating the use of a wireless XBT system but there is no progress to report.

e. Other comments:

RAN: All RAN XBT data are available through the Australian Ocean Data Network.