VOS Report for 2011   **Australia**

a.	Programme description:			
Category	**No. of ships at 31 Dec 2011**	**Recruitments in 2011**	**De-recruitments In 2011**	**Comments**
Selected	59	15	12	
Selected AWS	9			
VOSClim	8	1	2	
VOSClim AWS				
Supplementary				
Supplementary AWS				
Auxiliary	3	2		
Auxiliary AWS				
Other				
National VOS Total	79			

National VOS Target	100
National VOSClim Target	20

b.	Data management:
Total number of ship observations (BBXX) distributed on the GTS in 2011	66,287 (inc. 663 Masked)
Frequency of VOS data submitted to the GCC in 2011	4 (January, April, July, October)

c.	Shipboard Automatic Weather System			
Type	**No. of ships at 31 Dec 2011**	**Manual Input Yes / No**	**Method of Comms**	**2012 Planned installations**
Vaisala Milos 500	8	Yes	Inmarsat (data mode)	Nil
TECHSAS	1	No	Inmarsat Fleet Broadband System	Nil

f.	Electronic logbooks: (TurboWin, SEAS, OBSJMA)	
Software & version	**No. of ships at 31 Dec 2011**	**Implementation plans**
TurboWin 3.6	6	
TurboWin 4.0	8	
TurboWin 4.5	58	

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

The Bureau updated its TurboWin User Guide to Version 5 for distribution with the KNMI developed software.

i.   Other comments: