

VOS Report for 2013

Country = AUSTRALIA

a. Programme description:				
Category	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2013	Recruitments in 2013	De-recruitments In 2013	Comments
<i>Selected</i>	54	5	9	
<i>Selected AWS</i>	7			
<i>VOSclim</i>	7			
<i>VOSclim AWS</i>				
<i>Supplementary</i>				
<i>Supplementary AWS</i>				
<i>Auxiliary</i>	4	1		
<i>Auxiliary AWS</i>				
<i>Other</i>				
<b>National VOS Total</b>	72			

<b>National VOS Target</b>	100
<b>National VOSclim Target</b>	20

b. Data management:	
<i>Total number of ship observations (BBXX) distributed on the GTS in 2013</i>	50,330
<i>Dates when VOS data submitted to the GCCs in 2013</i>	4 ( January, April, July, October)

<b>c. Shipboard Automatic Weather System</b>				
<b>Type</b>	<b>No. of ships at 31 Dec 2013</b>	<b>Manual Input Yes / No</b>	<b>Method of Comms</b>	<b>2014 Plans</b>
Vaisala Milos 500	6	Yes	Inmarsat (data mode)	Nil
TECHSAS	1	No	Inmarsat Fleet Broadband	Nil

<b>d. Electronic logbooks: (TurboWin, SEAS, OBSJMA)</b>		
<b>Software &amp; version</b>	<b>No. of ships at 31 Dec 2013</b>	<b>Implementation Plans</b>
TurboWin 3.6	2	Upgrade to latest version as the opportunity arises
TurboWin 4.0	2	Upgrade to latest version as the opportunity arises
TurboWin 4.5	17	Upgrade to latest version as the opportunity arises
TurboWin 5.0	48	

e. Standard Meteorological Equipment: (Types and Settings)		
Equipment Type / Element	Manual Instrumentation	AWS Instrumentation
Barometer    <i>Default national setting</i>	Vaisala PTB 330	Vaisala PTB 220B
	Vaisala PTB 220B	
	Mechanism Ltd. Mk 2 Digital Aneroid	
	<i>Station Level</i>	<i>Station Level</i>
Barograph    <i>Default national setting</i>	Marine Electronic Barograph software	None
	Short & Mason Marine Barograph OS7	
	<i>Station Level</i>	<i>Station Level</i>
Thermometers	AMA mercury in glass	Rosemount ST2401 Temperature probe
	Zeal mercury in glass	Vaisala HMP45D humidity probe
Sea Surface Temperature	Ship's own condenser intake	Hull contact sensor Seabird SBE48
	Sea bucket and thermometer	
Wind Speed	Estimated	Vaisala Cups WAA151
Wind Direction	Estimated	Vaisala Vane WAV151

f. PMO ship visit activities: (if a visit is for dual purposes, include all purposes)			
Activity	Manual Ship	AWS Ship	Comment
Routine VOS inspections	71	6	
VOS recruitment visits	5		
VOS de-recruitment visits	9		
VOS courtesy or foreign visits	16		
<i>Total visits to VOS</i>	77		
Routine ASAP inspections	0		
ASAP recruitment visits	0		
ASAP de-recruitment visits	0		
ASAP courtesy visits	0		
<i>Total visits to ASAP</i>	0		
Routine SOOP visits	44		
SOOP recruitment visits	0		
SOOP de-recruitment visits	2		
SOOP courtesy visits	0		
<i>Total visits to SOOP</i>	46		
Visits in support of DBCP (drifting buoys)	22		
Visits in support of Argo (profiling floats)	0		
<i>Total visits to other programs</i>	22		
<b>Total visits by national PMOs</b>	155		<i>Sum of all ship visits (VOS + ASAP + SOOP) + visits to other program (DBCP + Argo)</i>

**g. Major challenges and difficulties:**

Staff shortages following the transfer of PMO duties to the regions have considerably reduced the number of routine VOS inspections performed during 2013. The active recruitment of ships into the AVOF has been challenged by resource availability.

**h. Research / development / testing:**

The rollout of the Marine electronic Barograph continued throughout 2013 with several minor fixes being implemented throughout the year. This software will obviate the need to provide ships with costly barographs that are becoming increasingly difficult to maintain.

**i. Other comments**