

VOS Report for 2014

Country = Ireland

a. Programme description:				
Category	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2014	Recruitments in 2014	De-recruitments In 2014	Comments
<i>Selected</i>	10	1	0	
<i>Selected AWS</i>				
<i>VOSclim</i>				
<i>VOSclim AWS</i>				
<i>Supplementary</i>				
<i>Supplementary AWS</i>				
<i>Auxiliary</i>				
<i>Auxiliary AWS</i>				
<i>Other</i>				
National VOS Total	10			

National VOS Target	
National VOSclim Target	

b. Data management:	
Total number of ship observations (BBXX) distributed on the GTS in 2014	860
Dates when VOS data submitted to the GCCs in 2014	20/01/14 & 24/03/14.

e. Standard Meteorological Equipment: (Types and Settings)		
Equipment Type / Element	Manual Instrumentation	AWS Instrumentation
Barometer	Vaisala PTB 330(3 ships, 7 other ships will be fitted with same barometer before end Q1)	
	<i>Default national setting</i> Station Level	<i>Station Level or Mean Sea Level</i>
Barograph	Ships own Barograph (7 day open scale mostly)	
	<i>Default national setting</i> Mean Sea Level	<i>Station Level or Mean Sea Level</i>
Thermometers	No standardisation (Plans to purchase digital thermometers/psychrometers)	
Sea Surface Temperature	No standardisation, Usually engine water intake	
Wind Speed	No standard instruments.	
Wind Direction	No standard instruments.	

f. PMO ship visit activities: (if a visit is for dual purposes, include all purposes)			
Activity	Manual Ship	AWS Ship	Comment
Routine VOS inspections	18		
VOS recruitment visits	1		
VOS de-recruitment visits	0		
VOS courtesy or foreign visits	1		
<i>Total visits to VOS</i>	20		
Routine ASAP inspections			
ASAP recruitment visits			
ASAP de-recruitment visits			
ASAP courtesy visits			
<i>Total visits to ASAP</i>	0		
Routine SOOP visits			
SOOP recruitment visits			
SOOP de-recruitment visits			
SOOP courtesy visits			
<i>Total visits to SOOP</i>	0		
Visits in support of DBCP (drifting buoys)			

Visits in support of Argo (profiling floats)			
<i>Total visits to other programs</i>	0		
Total visits by national PMOs	20	<i>Sum of all ship visits (VOS + ASAP + SOOP) + visits to other program (DBCP + Argo)</i>	

g. Major challenges and difficulties:

TURBOWIN observations from software to e-mail presented problems for 7 ships up to July 2014. 'EIDB' handling of turbowin observations Made difficult with ships not using exact protocols when copying observations from text output to e-mail. A meeting/ presentation given to 8 Naval ships in September has greatly improved quality and quantity of observations. Resources are an issue for seeking ships to join VOS.

h. Research / development / testing:

i. Other comments

The Irish Naval Service, which have 8 ships in Ireland's VOS continue to use masked call signs for security reasons. These call signs change periodically so no ship can be identified in real time. This is only any issue when ships have PMO visits but local arrangements allow for ship identification.