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|  | **SOOP Report for 2017** | | | | **Country =** | | **South Africa** | |
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|  | **a.** | **Programme description:** | | | | | | |
| **Line** | | **Agency** | **Sampling programme and target mode (if applicable)** | | | | **No. of ships** |
| GoodHope – Southern Ocean (2016/17) | |  | XBT at 30nm intervals (90min drops), subject to change if ship speed increased | | | | SA Agulhas II |
|  | Crossroads – South Indian Ocean (Agulhas current) | |  | XBT at 30 nm intervals (90 min drops) | | | | SA Agulhas II |
|  | SAMBA line – South Atlantic | |  | XBT at 30 nm (90 min drops) | | | | SA Agulhas II |
|  | GoodHope – Southern Ocean (2017/18) | |  | XBT at 30 nm (90 min drops) | | | | SA Agulhas II |
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|  | **b.** | **Data management** | | | | | | |
|  | **Agency** | | | **No. of JJVV messages on the GTS in 2017** | | **Location of delayed-mode data** | | |
|  | NOAA-UCT Oceanography | | | All data transmitted via email | | NA | | |
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|  | **c.** | **Major challenges and difficulties:** |
|  | To date the GPS system (Iridium) has not been successfully configured or used on the vessel, therefore Realtime data packages cannot be sent to NOAA, all data is sent post cruise. The weather plays a crucial role in determining deployments, the aft deck has been deemed out of bounds during storms which has resulted in cancelled deployments (scientist/crew safety). Alternatively, the auto-launcher provided in 2015 could serve as a replacement for hand launcher but due to structural constraints of the vessel and glitches experienced when using the AMVERSEAS software, it is not feasible option. | |
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|  | **d.** | **Research / development / testing:** |
| **XBTS used in some MSC projects**  **Validation of float sensor data (SCRIPPS collaboration – Gough Cruise 2017)** | |
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|  | **e.** | **Other comments:** |
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