

**REPORT BY THE TASK TEAM ON  
INSTRUMENT BEST PRACTICES AND  
DRIFTER TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT  
(IPBD)**

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Chair

IPBD

Paris, France

# Membership

[http://www.jcomm.info/index.php?option=com\\_oa&task=search&searchText=203&field=groupID&offset=0&limit=10&isAdvanced=&displaytype=Group&title=People%20in%20DBCPCP%20Task%20Team%20on%20Instrument%20Best%20Practices%20and%20Drifter%20Technology%20Development&orderby=role](http://www.jcomm.info/index.php?option=com_oa&task=search&searchText=203&field=groupID&offset=0&limit=10&isAdvanced=&displaytype=Group&title=People%20in%20DBCPCP%20Task%20Team%20on%20Instrument%20Best%20Practices%20and%20Drifter%20Technology%20Development&orderby=role)

# Best Practices.

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As pointed out yesterday, the DBCP drifters performed well, in general.

We would like to highlight the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) Pilot Project to agree on a strategy for updating Technical Regulations.

This team will be expected to support this activity and support the DBCP's request for resources to employ a consultant to support the project.

Unfortunately, as Chair I did some work for Best Practices:  
Update NDBC's Quality Control Document.

Provided updates to WMO Publication for QC of Moored buoys.

Worked on OceanSITES Users Manual that includes Best Practices.

# Overall

As noted during the Science and Technology Workshop – the drifter's deployed during the year worked well but improvements are noted in a few areas.

# Deployments

- Sea Surface Temperature data collection worked well.
- Drogue Sensor Evaluation – manufactures should implement tether strain in their drifters to monitor drogues.
- AOML's Data Assembly Center provided a report on the deployment of five clusters of four SVP drifters areas – results were discussed yesterday.
- MetService New Zealand deployed 40 SVPB buoys in the South Ocean. Operations were marred by some early drogue failures and intermittent spiky air pressure. Of 40 buoys deployed, thirteen (13) lost their drogues within 90 days and pressure data were removed from 8 buoys within the first six months. In March 2009, three drifters within close proximity to each other showed odd diurnal signals with pressure spiking around noon. Still investigating problem.
- The Task Team welcomes a review of the air pressure despiking algorithm to improve the algorithm where possible..



# Deployments

- Météo-France focused on evaluation Iridium Short Burst Data (SBD) transmissions as an alternative to Argos.
- They also purchased 125 SVP-B buoys over the period – one hundred were deployed and sixty were in operation by July 2009. Globally these buoys have provided excellent results for availability and timeliness.
- They continued to deploy and monitor ice drifters reporting air pressure. Used salinity and temperature with depth observations from SVP-BS and SVP-BTC to support calibration and validation of the Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity (SMOS) Satellite which will fly in 2010.
- They also worked with AOML's DAC to support deployment of the strain gauge drifters in the Biscay Bay.
- Environmental Canada continued to deploy Iridium drifters manufactures by MetOcean.
- They also work with JouBeh Technologies and Scotia Weather to facilitate GTS routing of drifting buoys operated by commercial companies in the Atlantic to the GTS. Currently this is not occurring.

# Improvements

Pacific Gyre is making a new wind drifter that measures wind with acoustic anemometers on the surface float.

Marlin-Yug provided results from their new GPS sensors at the Science and Technology Workshop. They also are developing a prototype Iridium SVP-BTC temperature profiling drifter and have deployed the buoy in the Black Sea.

Scripps discussed results from the restrained ADOS-A moored drifters

Liquid Robotics discussed their Wave Glider concept – Note that DBCP needs to determine where gliders and glider development fits within the DBCP.

Clearwater showed how battery life impacts buoy lifetime.

Thank You!

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