



NOAA's National Climatic Data Center

VOSCLim Data Assembly Centre

Report to:

JCOMM SOT Fifth Session

18 – 22 May 2009

Geneva, Switzerland

Alan Hall & Eric Freeman





VOSCLim Data Assembly Center

GTS BUFR GCC

NCDC's Marine Processing System

- Observations
- Ship List

VOSCLim RTMC
UK Met Office

- Statistics
- Suspect Rpts

Other Project Data

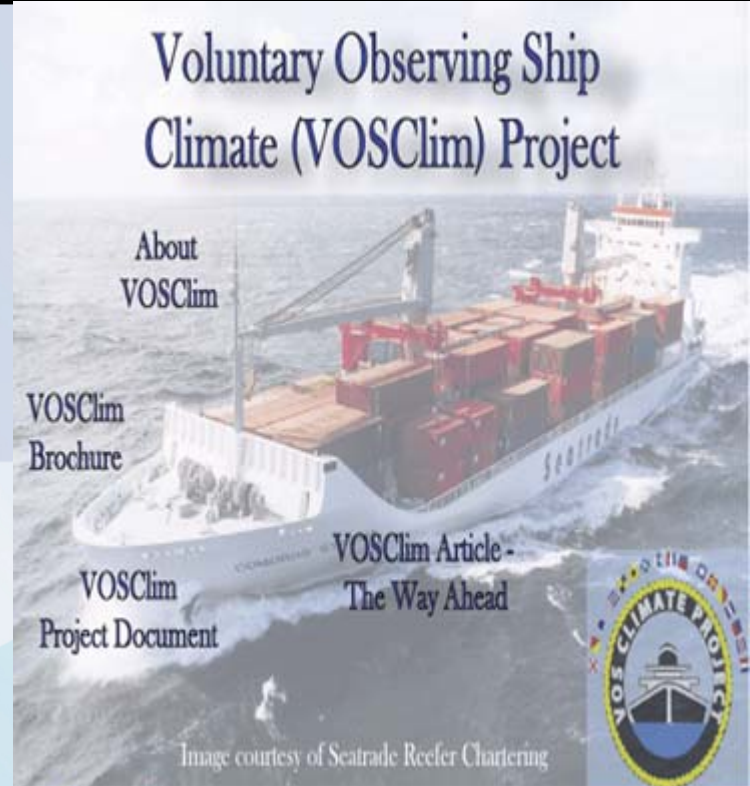
- Pictures
- Certificates
- etc

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VOSCLim Web Page
<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/vosclim/vosclim.html>



FTP Access:
<ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/VOSCLim>





Current VOSclim Data Availability

Three sources collected by the DAC:

BUFR – RTMC appends the six co-located parameters from the Met Office forecast model – pressure, relative humidity, air temperature, sea temperature, wind speed and wind direction

~400,000 Observations

GCC – Delayed mode collected by the Port Meteorological Officers which include the additional project code groups

~170,000 Observations

GTS – Ship code ONLY, no additional code groups

~450,000 Observations





VOSCLim Participation

- **Since SOT-IV:**

- **72 new recruits:**

AU - 2	NE - 16
CA - 9	NZ - 1
DE - 10	UK - 2
FR - 27	US - 5

- **13 withdrawn**

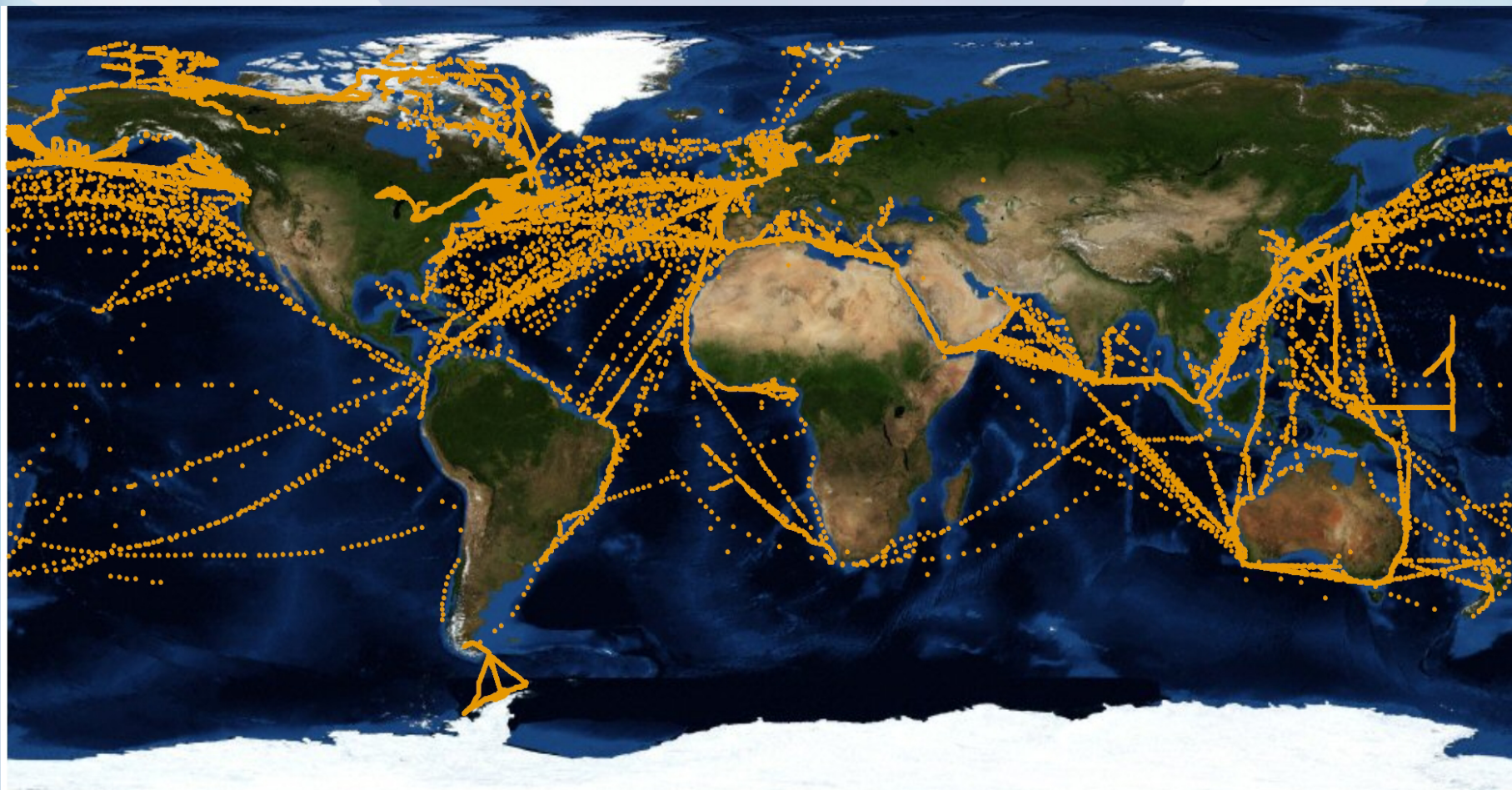
- **Active ships now up to 278!**





GTS VOSCLim Ship Track

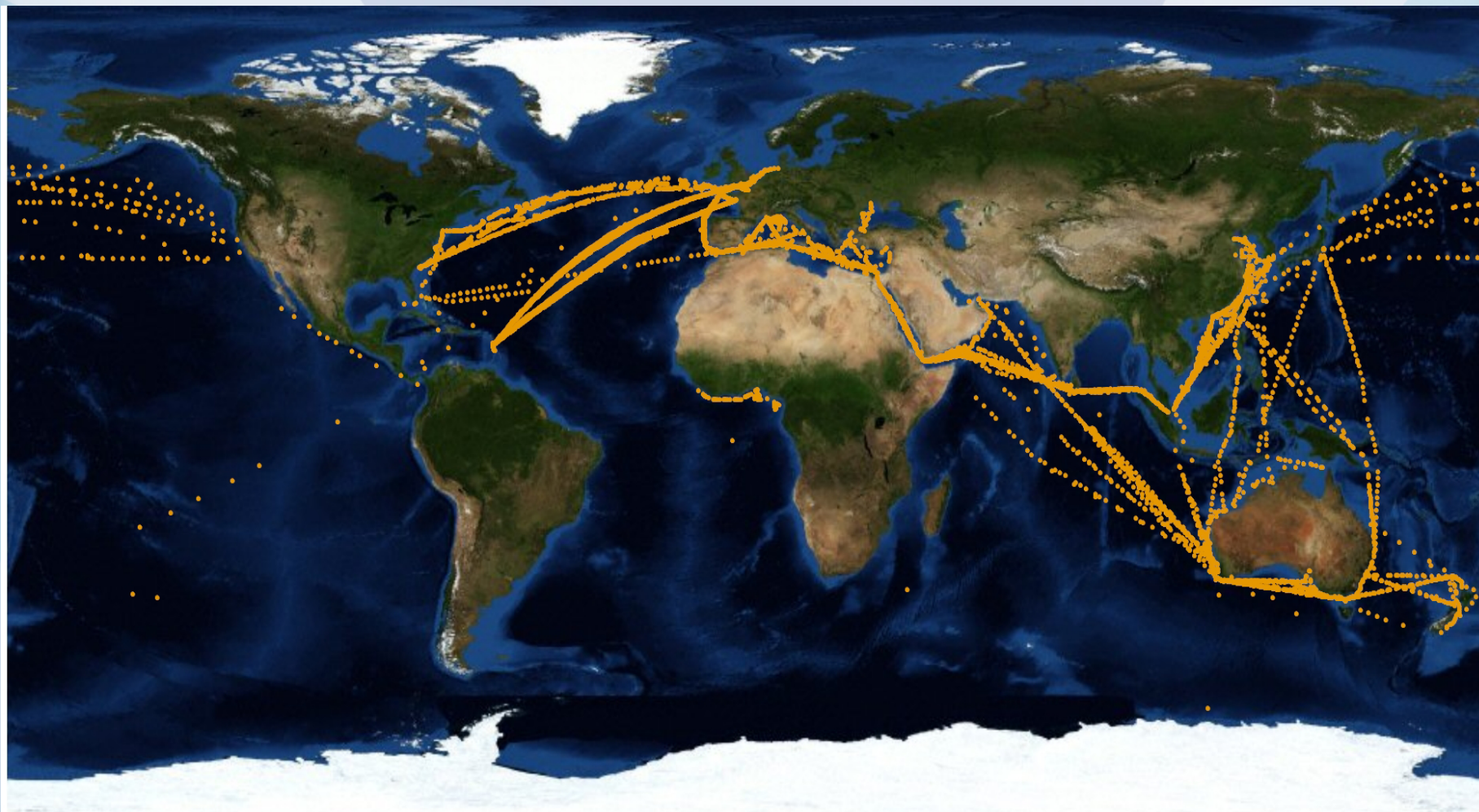
July – September, 2008





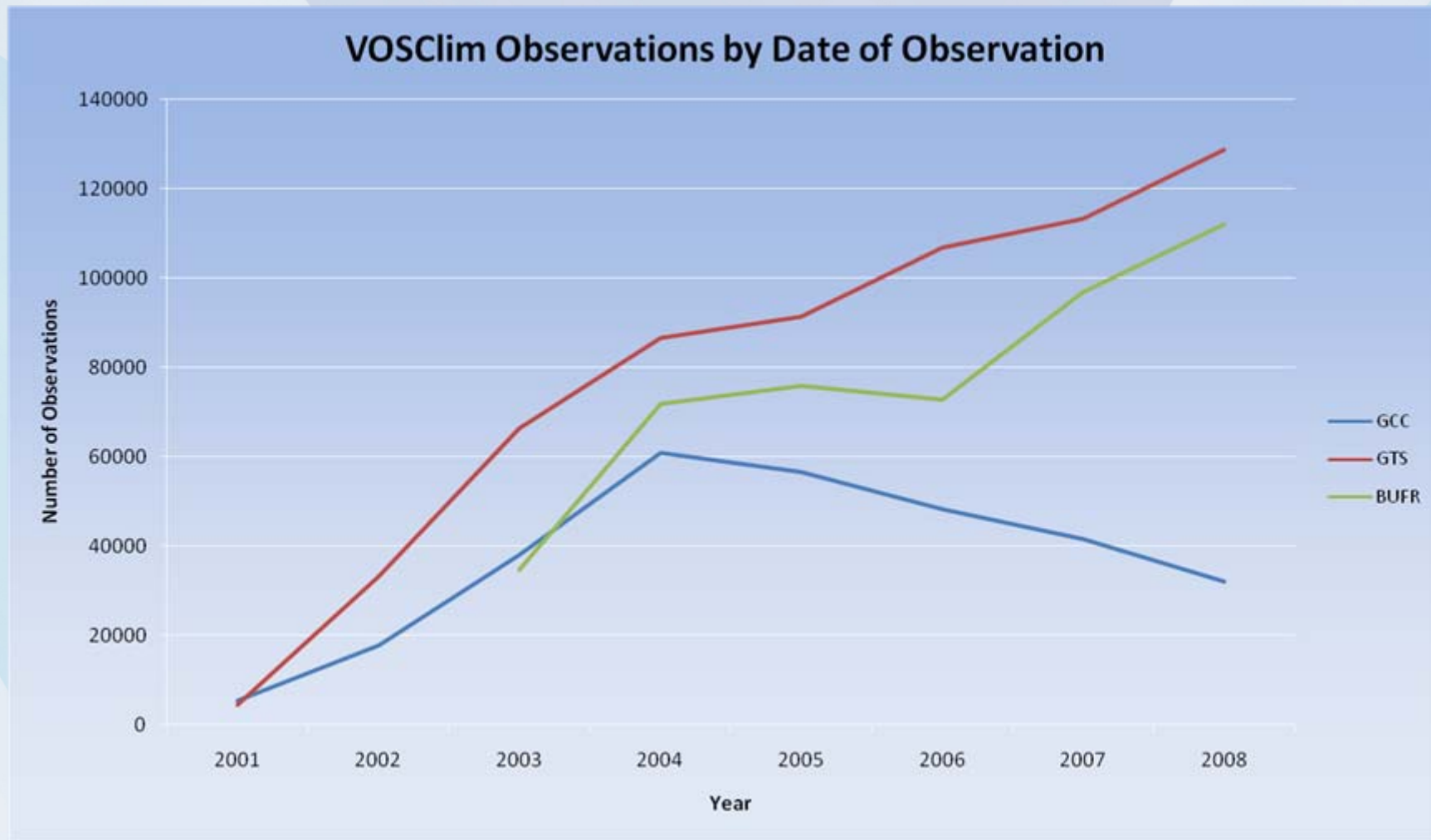
GCC VOSCLim Ship Track

July – September, 2008





Declining GCC Contributions





DAC Discussion Topics:

Delayed Mode Collection:

Approximately 170,000 VOSclim observations reported to the GCC's out of more than 400,000 collected from GTS and UK Met Office

The VOSclim code groups are lost because they are not transmitted over GTS. They are only picked up in delayed mode by the PMO's.

Recommendation: The DAC emphatically encourages non-contributing countries to submit delayed mode obs to include VOSclim elements.





DAC Discussion Topics:

Call sign Masking:

Very few reporting VOSCLim ships employ call sign masking.

Under the new recommendation from the Team, should a call sign be masked, those observations could be delayed indefinitely. The DAC currently has no identified process to deal with call sign masking.

Recommendation: Only unmasked GCC and BUFR observations made available to the DAC, even if that means delaying BUFR observations. GTS masked observations not collected.





DAC Discussion Topics:

Web Page Additions/Changes:

- **Is current webpage meeting user needs?**
- **Ship photos?**
 - **Only photos from AU, UK, and US ships are available on the project website. A link to Dutch ship photos is also included.**
- **New Links?**
- **New project information/documents?**
 - **New scientific papers (i.e. VOSClim related CWP's/Posters from OceanObs09)**
 - **Project documents, reports, articles**



Nathaniel B. Palmer, US VOSClim





DAC Commitment

VOSClm Project Recommendations:

The Task Team has proposed that VOS Operators should be encouraged, whenever possible, to upgrade their existing VOS to VOSClm standards in order to help ensure the future availability of climate quality marine data

Should the Team decide to expand VOSClm to VOS, the DAC remains committed to making VOSClm datasets available.





GTS VOSclim Ship Track

January – March, 2009

