



JCOMM Ship Observations Team update

OOPC-X, Geneva, 11 May 2005

Ship Observations Team

- Merged from 3 panels:
 - Volunteer Observing Ship (VOS) surface observations,
 - Ship of Opportunity Programme (SOOP) XBT observations,
 - Automated Shipboard ASAP
- meet every 18 months - 2 years

VOS points of relevance to OOPC

- VOS recruitment
- VOSclim recruitment
 - a priority for met services?
- Ship position information and security issues
 - some ships have been lost
 - ‘stealth mode’, but data is lost
- WMO publication 47 - metadata
 - target both WMO Sec. and VOS operators

SOOP points of relevance to OOPC

- Identified focal points for recruitment efforts for undersampled lines (but an ongoing problem)
 - Valparaiso-New Zealand and -California no longer possible
 - PX11 (Flores Sea-Japan) resource issue for Australia
- JCOMMOPS to improve reporting of total number of XBTs, separating identified lines from other drops
- Asked OOPC for clarification on FRX E-W vs N-S line requirements (5° for E-W, 150 km for N-S)
- Are ready to respond to updated line requirements identified by OOPC/CLIVAR

General SOT points

- draft standard design for ship science area completed
 - requires further input from particularly non-physical observing community
 - strategy to bring this to ship-builders / IMO
- ongoing efforts to identify buoy deployment opportunities