**AX181107 CRUISE REPORT**

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Introduction

The AX181107 was performed on board the CMA-CGM M/V SANTOS departing from DURBAN, South Africa on 25NOV2007 and arriving to SANTOS, Brazil on 05DEC2007.

A. XBT

A quantity of 178 effective over a total of 180 eXpendable BathyThermographs were deployed along track according to the specifications of the Cruise Plan, which 68 were dropped in High Density mode between the coast of South Africa and 1oW, 63 in Intermediate Density mode between 1 degree west and 29.2 degree west, and 50 in High Density mode between 29.2 degree west and 44.4 degree west heading South America.

SEAS2K system was used during the cruise.

B. Problems

Occasional issues with pins # 2, #3, and # 5, which kept working the whole cruise. Pin#6 of the Auto Launcher (metallic box) got stuck at the day before to end the cruise. AL should be serviced.

C. Recommendations

Reminders from AX181007: status of pin auto-launcher tube 3 (gray box) and UPS no longer holds a charge so needs to be replaced. The metallic frame which supports the Auto-Launcher should be replaced, since some of their threading became weak and crews cannot be adjusted properly.

D. Other narrative

The eight boxes with the instruments and hardware, and 3 XBT probes boxes were left onboard M/V SANTOS at the documentation store (3rd Deckhouse, door # 314) for next ride.

All along the cruise the Master, Chief Mate, Officers & crew were extremely helpful and cooperative.

E. Additional equipment, tools, supplies needed.

It is needed to put back duct tape, 4 large hose-clamps, 8 AA batteries, plastic straps.

F. GTS transmission

There were some problems with automatic transmission of .bin files. It was necessary to transmit some of them manually almost once a day using the function Transmit last profile/Transmit selected profile in the menu of SEAS2K/XBTGraph/Transmit. The issue was solved out just powering TandT down for a minute and then powering it back up, and automatic transmission was enabled again.

G. Drifters deployed.

NONE

H. Profiling floats deployed:

NONE