**Summary of cruise AX180610 between Cape Town and Montevideo**

AX180610 was conducted aboard the Ital Fortuna. I boarded the ship at Durban during the morning of the 28th of May. We eventually left Durban on the 01st of June and the equipment was tested from Durban to Cape Town. The drops went very smoothly between Cape Town and Montevideo and the ship birthed at Montevideo on the 09th of June 2010.

In total 208 XBTs were deployed. High density deployments at a rate of one per 20 km were started at 34.56 S and 031.05 E .Intermediate density deployments at a rate of one per 50km commenced from 01° W until 11° W. I then noticed that I might not have enough XBT´s for the final high density run so a spacing of 60km was used till 40° W. High density deployments were then done at a rate of one per 30km until 45° W ,when I calculated that I had enough XBT´s drop at a rate of one per 20km till the end of the voyage. The last drop was at 34.19°S and 051.45°W which hit the bottom at 150m.

No profiling floats or drifting buoys were deployed .

The weather was ok this cruise, with only a few drops being affected by strong cross winds which caused a bit of wire stretching. Only two XBT´s that were found to be faulty before the launching,stage. But in general this transect went pretty smoothly with very few problems worth mentioning.

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