**High-density XBT cruise AX80513 report**

**Ship : Maersk Visby**

**Call sign : 9V8827**

**Ship Rider : Alistair Blair**

**Dates XBT’s deployed :** May 15th to June 2nd 2013

a) **XBTs deployed :**

b) **Floats deployed:** 8 SOLO floats were deployed.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Float S/N and PTT** | **Start date/time of start-up** | **Deployment date/time** | **Deployment Position** |
| 950/6910 | 09/05/2013  09:44 GMT | 22/05/2013  21:41 GMT | 01 58.75 S  017 53.18 W |
| 952/1730 | 09/05/2013  09:52 GMT | 23/05/2013  09:05 GMT | 00 01.34 S  019 53.03 W |
| 973/9220 | 09/05/2013  09:48 GMT | 23/05/2013  18:46 GMT | 01 57.7 N  22 04.0 W |
| 1085/104016 | 09/05/2013  09:34 GMT | 24/05/2013  23:25 GMT | 06 58.5 N  027 56.8 W |
| 1100/104031 | 09/05/2013  09:41 GMT | 26/05/2013  02:25 GMT | 12 00.5 N  033 15.0 W |
| 1101/104032 | 09/05/2013  09:30 GMT | 27/05/2013  06:06 GMT | 16 58.6 N  038 54.48 W |
| 1106/104037 | 09/05/2013  09:56 GMT | 28/05/2013  23:27 GMT | 24 00.4 N  47 44.6 W |
| 1135/113105 | 09/05/2013  09:38 GMT | 30/05/2013  21:51 GMT | 29 59.3 N  055 51.2 W |

c) **Profiling drifters deployed:** No drifters were deployed.

1. **Equipment tools and supplies needed:** insulating tape, silicone spray and new wire cutters

e) **Problems:** XBT readings were influenced by strong winds from the 22nd to the 23rd of May and from the 26th of May to June 2nd. Some drops were worse than others and this is listed in the XBT log sheet, under the remarks sections. Furthermore on the last day of the cruise, the 1st of June, the XBT section of AMVERSEAS would freeze after every drop, at the moment it was trying to transmit the file. The computer would then have to be reset to get AMVERSEAS working. Therefore I decided it would be better to change laptops. This occurred on the last cruise, AX081012, and I have now found the problem to occur on both the backup laptop and the main laptop. Therefore I must conclude that AMVERSEAS undergoes instability after being run continuously over a period of time. There were no further issues aside from a few XBTs that failed and tube’s 5 and 6 having release issues. However this was fixed by using long nose pliers to wiggle the pin release. One additional persisting issue was the MK21 not responding however this was found to be infrequent.

f) **Recommendations:** The Maersk Vilnius and Visby are perfect ships for deploying XBTs so I recommend we use her as much as Maersk allows us to. Additionally trying to establish what causes the AMVERSEAS XBT section to cause malfunctioning.

g) **Other narrative:** The Captain, officers and crew of the Visby were exceptionally hospitable whilst I was aboard.

h) **Ship contact:** Captain Mario Chaeez Gaylen

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