**Summary of cruise AX80513 between Cape Town and Newark**

AX80513 was conducted aboard the Maersk Visby. I boarded the ship in Cape Town on the morning of the 15th of May 2013. The installation and testing of the equipment were done by Gus McKay prior in Durban. After leaving Cape Town the drops for the AX080513 began on the 15th of May until the 1st of June 2013 when 200m depth was reached.

In total 508 XBT’s were deployed. There were no major issues during the cruise. Only one drop was missed due to an MK21 shut down and AMVERSEAS reconfiguration, which took approximately 1 hour thus one drop being missed. This is noted in the XBT log sheet. As was pointed out in the report AMVERSEAS is still having stability issues, in the XBT section of AMVERSEAS, when transmitting files. This was found to occur on both trips only after a few weeks of continuous running. This problem is not fixed by simply restarting the computer. Other issues include wind effecting XBT readings from the 22nd to the 23rd of May and from the 26th of May to the 2nd of June. Moving the launcher did not resolve the issue unfortunately. Other than these issues the cruise went smoothly.

8 SOLO floats were deployed during the voyage

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Float S/N and PTT** | **Start date/time of start-up** | **Deployment date/time** | **Deployment Position** |
| 950/6910 | 09/05/201309:44 GMT | 22/05/201321:41 GMT | 01 58.75 S017 53.18 W |
| 952/1730 | 09/05/201309:52 GMT | 23/05/201309:05 GMT | 00 01.34 S019 53.03 W |
| 973/9220 | 09/05/201309:48 GMT | 23/05/201318:46 GMT | 01 57.7 N22 04.0 W |
| 1085/104016 | 09/05/201309:34 GMT | 24/05/201323:25 GMT | 06 58.5 N027 56.8 W |
| 1100/104031 | 09/05/201309:41 GMT | 26/05/201302:25 GMT | 12 00.5 N033 15.0 W |
| 1101/104032 | 09/05/201309:30 GMT | 27/05/201306:06 GMT | 16 58.6 N038 54.48 W |
| 1106/104037 | 09/05/201309:56 GMT | 28/05/201323:27 GMT | 24 00.4 N47 44.6 W |
| 1135/113105 | 09/05/201309:38 GMT | 30/05/201321:51 GMT | 29 59.3 N055 51.2 W |

Overall the voyage went well with only the one-day were issues were encountered. The Maersk Visby is an ideal ship for XBT deployments as it maintains a steady speed and the point of release is near to the waterline resulting in only a few faulty drops due to the launching position. The distance from the cabin to the launcher and antenna is not far, thus making installation simpler.

The Captain and crew were exceptionally hospitable during the voyage. As well as the crew always being eager to assist during the voyage.

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