

**Cruise Report (23/04/2016 – 11/05/2016)**

**AX080416 – Maersk Vilnius**

**Technical rider: Chris Jacobs**

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On 23 April 2016, the Maersk Vilnius departed Cape Town and arrived at Newark on 11 May 2016. During the voyage, only expendable bathythermographs (XBTs) were deployed. Going at an average speed of 16-17 knots, XBTs were deployed every 50 mins so as to provide a drop every 25 km. This provided a high density, high resolution section of the AX08. Very little to no problems were encountered during the voyage, except for major swells (when leaving Cape Town) and inclement weather (6 – 8 May 2016). The inclement weather caused odd profiles to be observed on for a few drops until the storm passed. Other than this, the odd profile was also observed due to wire break and severe winds which caused spiking. In the event of this occurring, a re-drop was done so as to obtain a proper temperature profile. A common glitch was seen with the system not transmitting profiles however this was overcome with a simple restart of the AmverSeas program.

**General Comments**

The Maersk Vilnius is an ideal vessel for all types of deployments with the captain and crew being more than willing to assist with the deployments even during the early hours of the morning. A huge thank you to the Captain Mario Gaylan, Second officer Rahul Bhati, and crew of the Maersk Vilnius, especially AB Arhem, for all the effort and assistance, with the deployments and reloading during the early hours of the morning, and for the great hospitality aboard the cruise.

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