

			
TITLE	Policy for the release of underway data		
Policy reference and Version No:	Policy 2005/1/v.3		
Policy type	Operational Policy		
Commencement date:	01/07/2005	Review date:	01/07/2007
Scope	All MNF voyages unless an exemption is granted		
Group responsible	Data Processing Group, Data Management Group		
Further advice	Manager, Data Acquisition and Processing Data Centre Manager		

POLICY STATEMENT	
Purpose	To enable the release of underway data as early as possible so that it may be of maximum benefit to the international science community.
Overview	<p>There is international interest in making open ocean data available to the scientific community in close to real time so that it may be used for initialisation and validation of climate forecast systems. An example of this is the GOSUD (Global Ocean Surface Underway Data) pilot project of the IOC (intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (see related material).</p> <p>As good citizens of the global scientific community, it is appropriate for the MNF to participate in these initiatives wherever possible.</p> <p>The underway data is not central to the scientific objectives of most voyages and therefore early release of these data would not impact on the publishing prospects of most Principal Investigators.</p> <p>Early release of the underway data should not require significant extra resources.</p>
Objectives	To make reliable underway data available to the global scientific community as quickly as possible within existing resource constraints

<p>Definitions</p>	<p>Underway data: a dataset collected continuously on most voyages, consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • date and time • ship's position, direction and speed • meteorological data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ wind speed and direction ○ atmospheric temperature, humidity and pressure ○ incident radiation intensity • thermosalinograph data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ water temperature ○ water salinity • spot depth <p>Principal Investigator: The leader of the specified program of scientific work who is named in the application form. There may be more than one named, but only one will be designated as the contact for a voyage.</p> <p>Chief Scientist: The Chief Scientist is the person responsible for the planning and execution of the scientific program at sea and the reporting of Research Voyages.</p>
<p>Policy provisions</p>	<p>Underway data is to be processed and quality controlled as soon as practicable (either during or immediately after a voyage) and then made available to the international science community in the most appropriate way.</p> <p>There will be a procedure for Chief Scientists to apply to the steering committee for exemption from this policy. Examples of grounds for exemption are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public release of the underway data may reduce the value of the data for a Principal Investigator by potentially giving other researchers first use of critical data, • release of the underway data is not in the public interest <p>More information is available in the relevant procedure.</p>
<p>Related material</p>	<p>Information on the GOSUD project can be found at http://www.ifremer.fr/sismer/program/gosud/</p>
<p>Supporting Procedures/Guidelines</p>	<p>Procedure 2005/1/v.2 sets out the procedure for seeking exemption from this policy.</p>
<p>ACCOUNTABILITIES</p>	

Implementation	The Data Processing Group will ensure that the underway data is suitably processed and quality controlled for release either during or shortly after a voyage. The Data Management Group will ensure that the underway data is made available to the international community once released by the Data Processing Group.
Compliance	Manager, Data Acquisition and Processing
Monitoring and Evaluation	Director, Research Vessel
Development and Review	Director, Research Vessel, Manager, Information Services, CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research
Approval Authority	MNF Steering Committee

WHO SHOULD KNOW THIS POLICY?

Principal Investigators
Chief Scientists
Manager, Data Centre
Manager, Data Acquisition and Processing

REVISION HISTORY

Revision Ref No	Approved / Rescinded	Date	Authority	Document Title
<i>2005/1/v.3</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>19/09/05</i>	<i>MNF SC</i>	<i>Release of Underway Data</i>

EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS POLICY

Performance Indicators	Number of questions raised by Chief Scientists. Use of the underway data by the international science community.
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