NODC REF NO.'S Ø81039 - Ø81161
C116
9400047

Melanie Hamilton, 03:12 PM 4/15/94, data sets and GTSPP (fwd)

the programmers and sub contractors and for me, each time I go into it, it is a chinese puzzle (getting old!). Once it works, we must absolutely describe it exhaustively. A GTSPP comprehensive data dictionary is still missing.

This leads me to talk about the inclusion of the information provided by the SACs. I am glad that Ron volunteered to take the lead of such an operation. Primarily, like you, I thought that it would be easy to convert the flags codes so that we could put them into the history table. However I am not sure that it is the best solution, for many reasons. The major one is that these analysis are not stabilized at all. We would have to constantly create new codes and update the documentation to describe them. The structure of the history table moreover is not well suited (was not designed to) to manage this kind of information. I would agree with Ron that simple plain text fields will be the easiest way, if not the most elegant, to solve this problem quickly. With this system, the information could be attached or not to the data, according to the users wishes. Anyway I have definitely decided that my mental health is more important, even for our customers, that this endless process of data requalification. In this job there are enough good reasons to sink in a nervous breakdown without adding the demands of small groups of analysers.

Just a question which has been bothering me for a while: how do you satisfy the users requests presently, I mean what ouput format are you currently using for data sets?

To end and to just to keep you busy during your too long idle times, I transfered two zipped DOS files into your directory on gascogne. They contain the Noumea and Brest data processed between our last shipment to the NODC and the implementation of the new system (August 93). The format is genuine TSDC format. If you meet problems with the decompression, please tell me.

Enough for today. Happy Easter and best regards Jean-Paul

Mr Jean-Paul Rebert

5-5-94

BOB STEIN:

ACC: 9400047

NODC REF: : Ø81039 - Ø81161 C116

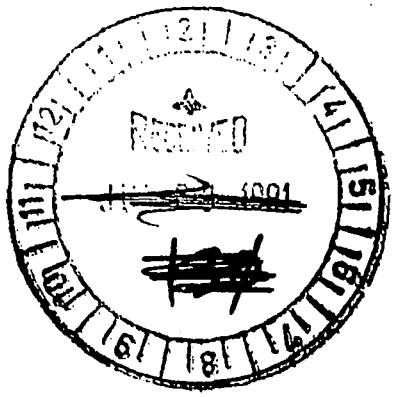
JEAN-Paul REBERT

INV = PAULINV2

~~TAPE~~ TAPE = W8 1008

/worm1/unique/noaa12/Acen94_Cont/9400047.dir/*

TSDC 1



TOGA SUBSURFACE DATA CENTRE

Format of the T.S.D.C. ouput files

A standard TOGA subsurface data file contains two types of records :

- a profile header (one per profile)
- profile data (one or more per profile)

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Organisation on tape or diskette :

The record length is 80 characters. A temperature profile is composed of a heading record followed by a variable number of data records composed of depth-temperature couples. These records are described hereafter.

Profile heading record :

from	to	format	field name	field definition
1	1	A1	record type	always "P"
2	8	A7	profile key	position in degrees (internal sort key)
9	11	A3	institution code	data sender's international code
12	13	A2	country code	international country sender's code
14	14	A1	Ocean code	A = Atlantic, I=Indian, P=Pacific Oceans
15	22	A8	Ship code	international radio call sign
23	26	A4	Cruise number	originator cruise number, 0 if not provided
27	29	A3	Station number	adopted from originators, 0 if not provided
30	30	A1	Platform type	A=Vessel, B=moored buoy, C=drifting buoy
31	36	A6	Date	YYMMDD.
37	40	A4	Time	HHMM
41	41	A1	Latitude sign	negative south
42	45	A4	Latitude	DDMM (degrees, minutes)
46	46	A1	Longitude sign	negative west
47	51	A5	Longitude	DDMM (degrees, minutes)
52	52	A1	Profile type	A=XBT, B=bathymessage, G=TESAC (see note 1)
53	58	A6	Update	Date of last update
59	59	A1	valid. level	Internal. 0=unvalidated profile 1=checked profile
60	60	A1	Profile flag	Profile's quality flag (see note 2)
61	61	A1	Position flag	Position's quality flag (see note 2)
62	62	A1	Date flag	Date's quality flag (see note 2)
63	65	A3	Thermocline depth	Automatically computed at TSDC (meters)
66	70	A5	surface salinity	in standard units
71	71	A1	surf. sal. flag	Surface salinity quality flag
72	75	A4	maximum depth	deepest profile level
76	80	A5	filler	padded with blank

Notes :

1. Other profile types used : N = Nansen cast, S = CTD, C,D,E, for thermistor chains on moored or drifting buoys.

XBT means delayed-mode temperature profile as sent by the originator (not reprocessed)

2. flags using the IGOSS scale : 0 = uncontrolled, 1 = good, 2 = inconsistencies, 3 = doubtful, 4 = wrong.
5 = corrected

data record :

From	to	Format	field name	field definition
1.	1	A1	record type	always "N"
2	78		group repeated seven times :	
		A4	depth	depth in meters
		A5	temperature	temperature (°C, 2 decimals)
		A1	depth flag	depth quality (id)
		A1	temperature flag	temperature quality (id)
79	80	A2	filler	padded with blank

Exemple :

```
+11-02715335A0GLM      0     0    A8708291200+1110-02727B871007001103500.000530
000027.6011002027.5011004021.8011005017.5011007014.8011016011.5011023511.0011
028510.6011036010.0011041009.6011044009.7011053009.0011
```

STORAGE :

The data can be forwarded to users either on

Magnetic tape, 9 tracks, 1600 or 6250 bpi, ASCII or EBCDIC, blockage 80.

or on diskettes

5"1/4	360 K
5"1/4	1,2 M
3"1/2	720 K
3"1/2	1,44 M