

Data Management Group

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In 2008 the Data Management Group (DMG) participated actively in a series of national and international oceanographic and polar data management projects, while continuing to work on the day-to-day activities for the National Cruise Programme and for the institute.

The DMG is a separate group within the department of Physical Oceanography, funded by NWO and NIOZ. The DMG represents NIOZ and the Dutch academic oceanographic community within the National Oceanographic Data Committee (NODC). It also serves as the National Antarctic Data Centre (NADC). The main tasks of the DMG are to assist scientists during all phases of a project with data management and, secondly, to archive and keep available and accessible all relevant data of NWO and NIOZ cruises.

linked. This activity includes the daily update of the cruise diary pages on the NIOZ website www.nioz.nl/cruises.

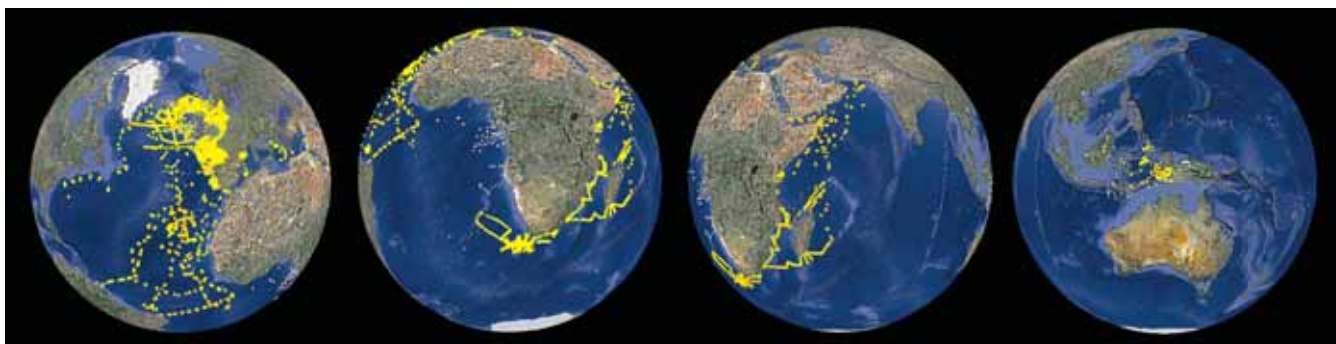
Software scripts were written to enable automated sending of meteorological information and weather forecasts to RV Pelagia.

The work of populating the NIOZ-CODIS hydrographic database continued. By the end of the year, the CODIS hydrological database contained data from 150 cruises, comprising 5846 CTD profiles and 1886 sample bottle casts. The use of the NIOZ databases continued to grow

ICES-Working Group on Data and Information Management.

Staff of the DMG participated in the M75/1b cruise onboard RV Meteor and the Multibeam Test cruise (64PE295) onboard RV Pelagia. DMG processed the standard CTD data for all research cruises.

An additional task of the DMG is the development and maintenance of the Netherlands Antarctic Data Inventory (NADI, <http://www.nadi.nl>) for all



The work for the national (Bsic-funded) NODC-*i* project and the EU-funded SeaDataNet project was extended during 2008. These are multi-year data management projects, both aiming at a fully distributed and transparent data access architecture. The NODC-*i* project, which ended on Dec 31, is described in more detail in a separate article in this annual report.

The EU-funded SeaDataNet project (www.seadatanet.org), with 49 partners from 35 countries bordering the seas around Europe, aims to build a pan-European data access infrastructure. The NODC-*i* portal is the Dutch node in the European SeaDataNet data access network.

The DMG maintains a series of databases and project websites, many dynamically

and showed an increase by 38 % over the previous year from an average of 2290 logins/day to 3162 logins/day. A login is defined as 'a retrieval of data and/or metadata in tabular or graphical form from a database'. One login can consist of multiple queries on the database. Many requests for data and (graphical) data products, both from within the institute as from outside, were answered. These requests are very diverse and range from questions on CTD procedures or research vessel movements to the obligatory delivery to the French authorities of data collected in the French Exclusive Economical Zone. As participant in the NODC, NIOZ actively participates in international organizations as the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) and the

Antarctic research projects in the Netherlands. Until July 2008, a DMG staff member was the Chief Officer of the Joint Committee on Antarctic Data Management (JCADM), which currently has representation from 31 countries. He continues to co-chair the International Polar Year Subcommittee on Data Policy and Management. DMG staff also participated in a series of national and international meetings related to oceanographic and polar data management. At these meetings, DMG staff members gave 11 oral presentations and presented 9 posters on various aspects of scientific data management.

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