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The OceanSITES program of fixed open-ocean sustained timeseries

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Time series at critical or representative locations are an essential element of the global ocean observing system. They can provide a unique view of the full temporal behavior of a system; accurate reference and long-time baseline data; and the maximum possible range of interlinked variables from the seafloor to the atmosphere while enabling shared resources.

The mission of the international OceanSITES program is to collect, deliver and promote the use of high-quality data from long-term, high-frequency observations at fixed locations in the open ocean. OceanSITES typically aim to collect multidisciplinary data worldwide from the full-depth water column as well as the overlying atmosphere.

The presentation will cover the status, benefits, and structure of OceanSITES, some prominent examples of long fixed timeseries in the system, and plans for the future including the OceanSITES contribution to the Deep Ocean Observing System. Some emphasis will also be placed on the data management system, delivering homogeneous data sets in a unified format from single data portals.