

Operational oceanography and drift predictions at Meteo-France

P. Daniel

(pierre.daniel@meteo.fr)

The monitoring and prediction of marine pollution, the assistance to search and rescue operations, are both dependent on access to high-quality information on ocean circulation. Operational oceanography systems are able to provide prognostic data for currents, temperature and salinity in the open ocean, with global coverage, and are now being used in safety related decisions tools at sea.

Examples will be given of the ways that the ocean forcing data are implemented in the drift prediction system of Meteo-France, with a particular emphasis on search and rescue applications. The most important benefits of the operational oceanography data sets are improved prediction accuracy, global coverage and the availability of alternative data sets for a given area.