



Environment
Canada

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DESIGN AND SUPPLY OF AVOS SYSTEMS

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to confirm that Axys Environmental Systems (a division of Axys Technologies Inc) was contracted by Environment Canada (EC) to design an integrated system for the collection and dissemination of high quality ship borne weather observations. The Automatic Voluntary Observing Ship (AVOS™) system specifications included the development of hardware and firmware to integrate a number of automatic sensors, and to also include an interactive Software interface for the addition of observer data. The AVOS™ system was designed with an advanced Quality Control algorithm to ensure the highest quality of transmitted data in the WMO FM13 formats. The design phase of the project took place over a 10-month period and concluded with the delivery of 2 pre-production systems.

The pre-production AVOS™ payloads were initially evaluated on Canadian Coast Guard vessels in operational settings with one deployed to the Arctic and the other offshore on the east coast. With the successful evaluation program completed and minor design reviews implemented, the first production run of 10 units was initiated. Axys has now delivered 20 units to date, with a planned total of 75 units by 2005.

Axys has been contracted to modify and enhance the original design to include automatic calibrating compasses, auxiliary Gyro Compass inputs and an external power source. Further system enhancements to the interactive software have been done as part of Axys' ongoing Product Development initiatives.

At Environment Canada, we are very pleased with the data provided by the AVOS™ deployed network. The Axys systems in use have performed very well with an operational reliability of better than 98%. In addition, the technical support provided by Axys has been of a high quality and has played a major part in the early success of the program.

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