Introduction

Ocean wave information relies on the collection of oceanographic and meteorological data, analysis and interpretation of the data, and dissemination of the resulting information products. These products can range from statistical tables and charts to bulletins and technical reports. Operational oceanography is distinct in that the science is focused on the development of information products that are used for decision making. Ocean wave conditions are a major constituent in any operational plan and are important to support safe maritime activities such as loading ships, fishing, recreation, mineral extraction, and military exercises. This workshop goes beyond consideration of descriptive wave products such as spectra from buoys, hindcasts from historical weather records, and forecasts from wave models. It provides the opportunity for participants to share their procedures for distributing wave information products to governmental, industrial, and regulatory agencies, and involvement in the applications of these products.

Scientists, engineers, and managers have been invited to present ideas, research results, case studies, work in progress, and system demonstrations related to the use of wave buoys, models, and information to support operations. Discussions highlight how wave information is used to make decisions such as the issuance of warnings to mariners, evacuation of coastal areas, routing of ships into favorable seaways, and efficient deployment of marine spill response equipment. This workshop provides a forum for operational oceanographers to stimulate discussion, provide new insights, and provide feedback for focused experiments.

The workshop pre-proceedings and proceedings will be made available through the workshop website, which can be accessed online at URL: http://www.uno.edu/research/Home/OceanWaves.

Organizing Committee

Workshop Chairs:

Dr. Scott L. Whittenburg, *University of New Orleans* (Co-Chair)
Mr. C. Reid Nichols, *Marine Information Resources Corporation* (Co-Chair)

Moderators:

Mr. Bruce W. Northridge, *Marine Information Resources Corporation*……..……Session I
Mr. W. Erick Rogers, *Naval Research Laboratory*……..……Session II
Mr. Bruce W. Northridge, *Marine Information Resources Corporation*……..……Session III
Dr. Ioannis Georgiou, *University of New Orleans*…….……Session IV

Rapporteurs:

Dr. Robert G. Williams, *Marine Information Resources Corporation*
Mr. C. Reid Nichols, *Marine Information Resources Corporation*

Data Display and Management Demonstration:

Mr. Don Bryan, AXYS Technologies, Inc.

Workshop Objectives

- Discuss technologies and applications which provide information on ocean waves.
- Improve the exchange of information on state-of-the-art wave measuring and modeling capabilities through cross-fertilization by participants of diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise.
- Share information on projects using ocean wave measurements to illustrate the kinds of problems and solutions encountered in real world oceanography.
- Show how ocean wave measurements contribute to meteorological/oceanographic projects.
- Enhance opportunities for others through the exchange of information and techniques.

Methodology

Each session was organized into presentations, break-out groups, and guided discussions. Break-out groups were given a suggested set of questions based in part on the submitted abstracts.

Target Participants

Oceanographers, engineers, scientists, Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) Services Officers, aerographer mates, marine science technicians, field supervisors and managers from academia, government, and industry.

Number of Participants

The number of participants is limited to 40.