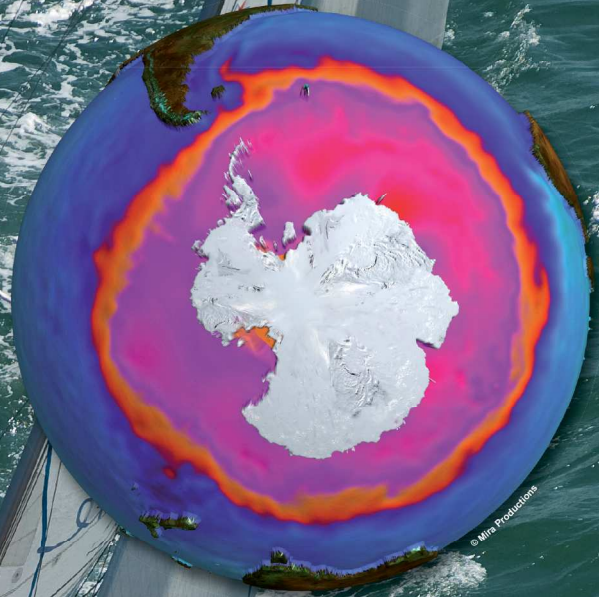


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MONITORING CURRENTS

Currents, which convey millions of tonnes of water, are found both on the surface and at depth, with endless meanders and eddies hundreds of metres deep. The use of satellites has enabled us for the first time to observe and map the major currents, such as the Gulf Stream, the Kuroshio and the Antarctic Circumpolar Current, and study their seasonal variations. Monitoring currents also leads to many other applications related to maritime activities, as well as adding to our understanding of the part played by ocean currents in transporting heat.



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