

**TERMINOLOGY**  
**Ship Operations & Oceanographic Technical Support**  
**May 2012**

The following terms are defined to ensure uniform operational usage and cost accounting within the Academic Research Vessel Fleet. The terminology for pooled equipment may differ (See SSSE Program Description, Format and Tables).

**OPERATING DAYS** - All days away from homeport in an operating status incident to the scientific mission. Includes days in other ports for the purpose of fueling, changing personnel, etc. Includes transit time. Includes day of arrival and day of departure from homeport. Does not include maintenance or lay days described below. Does not include any days in homeport except unusual cases to meet a specific cruise need. Operating Day is the basic unit for ship time funding and support.

**DAYS AT SEA** – All days actually at sea incident to the scientific mission. Includes day of arrival and day of departure. Includes transit time. Includes time anchored (except in port call anchorages), hove to, and drifting. Does not include days in foreign ports.

**LAY DAYS** – Days in homeport for purposes of fitting out, cruise preparation, crew rest, and upkeep. May in rare cases include similar periods in other ports.

**MAINTENANCE DAYS** – Days undergoing overhauls, dry-docking or other scheduled or unscheduled repairs during which the ship is not available for service.

**DAYS OUT OF SERVICE** – Periods during which ship is laid up out of service for an extended period for reasons of economy, unemployment or unfit for service.

**DAILY RATE** - Daily cost factor for a ship arrived at by dividing the total operating costs for the scientific mission (including indirect costs but excluding depreciation) by the operating days for the same period. Unless otherwise specified, the daily rate ordinarily reflects a one year period.