

**EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** CSIRO

**DEST Question No. E102\_04**

Senator Carr asked on 4 June 2003.

**Question:**

*Refers to DEST Question No E786\_03*

Your answer to question E786 regarding winches on the Southern Surveyor denied any major problems with winches, suggested that teething problems had been fixed and that sea trialling had been successful.

- (a) Were full sea trials carried out on all winches and related equipment?
- (b) Were winch cables spooled onto the gear under appropriate tension as required or was it simply wound on from the dock to save time?
- (c) If that is the case, how can you say that the sea trials were successful?

**Answer:**

CSIRO has provided the following response.

*Southern Surveyor – Winches – Sea Trials*

- (a) No. Some existing winches that had not been modified were tested alongside and full sea trials were not carried out on them all. The forward CTD winch drum had sustained some damage to the spooling gear just prior to the sea trials and was not tested during the trials.
- (b) The CTD cables and coring winch wires were spooled on to the drums from a wire winder either with friction or hydraulic braking. This tension was appropriate to meet the requirements of testing the spooling gear, lebus shells and drum capacities. It is accepted standard practice, when initially spooling new wire onto a winch, to spool it under low tension alongside and then to re-spool it at sea under full tension (usually generated by the weight of the wire) when sufficient water depth is available.
- (c) The trials referred to in E786\_03 were of the new CTD winch tension system. The new valves performed to specification.