

PublicRelations Tel: +49 431 600-2802 East Shore Campus Fax: +49 431 600-2805 Wischhofstraße 1-3 presse@ifm-geomar.de D-24148 Kiel www.ifm-geomar.de deep-sea buoys, so-called Argo floats, and also information on the sea surface itself and the atmosphere from various satellite-based sensors. "The time series obtained over the past ten to twenty years have revealed previously unknown fluctuations of currents and temperatures at the surface of the tropical Atlantic which have a regular cycle of 54 months, or 4 ½ years," explained Peter Brandt. The scientists were able to document similar fluctuations of the "Deep Jets", deep currents down to 3000 m with speeds of 10-20 cm/sec. They flow along the equator, crossing the entire Atlantic, with flow reversals every few hundred meters. "These jets are generated in the deep ocean, and their energy apparently propagates upwards through the water column. Once