

oceanbuzz!

The weekly ocean technology e'Newsletter everyone's talking about

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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) BOWTECH PRODUCTS APPOINT EXCLUSIVE NORWEGIAN AGENT

Bowtech Products continue to expand their distribution network with the appointment of Innova AS, as their exclusive agents in Norway.

In recognition of their appointment Jostein Reinsnos, Managing Director of Innova said :- "The Bowtech range of high quality products compliments our own products in a significant manner, and further strengthens Innova's capacity as a full range supplier of high specification underwater systems and components."

Innova AS was established in 1997. With offices in Sandnes and Bergen they supply engineering components and systems for use in the underwater offshore, military and scientific communities.

The company is divided into four main business areas, engineering, sales, service and rental. The engineering department specialises in the design, fabrication, assembly and testing of Electro-hydraulic control systems and ROV/Tooling skids, ROTV systems, Propulsion systems, Sub sea hydraulic power units, Underwater data collection and logging systems, Vibration measurement and ROV tooling systems.

For more information, please contact Mike Winstanley, Bowtech Products Ltd, Kirkhill Industrial Estate, Aberdeen, AB21 0GN, Tel: +44 (0)1224 772345, Email: bowtech@bowtech.co.uk.

1.b) MACARTNEY SUPPLY TO HELP PREDICT IMPACT OF FEHMARNBELT LINK

Before building the new transport link from Denmark to Germany over the Fehmarnbelt, detailed studies of the current environment need to be performed. MacArtney A/S has been chosen to advise and supply instruments and infrastructure (underwater cables, connectors, terminations, etc.) to monitor life and flow in the strait. This information will help planners choose which kind of link to build and document any environmental changes it brings.

For further information please contact: Niels Erik Hedeager at neh@macartney.com, tel. +45 76132000.

1.c) GAPS IS THE ONE FOR NCS SURVEY

NCS Survey has chosen GAPS, IXSEA's Global Acoustic Positioning System, for the acoustic positioning of a number of subsea structures for a North Sea renewables project due to start this month.

Speaking from the company's new head office in Westhill, Aberdeen, Andy Gray, CEO of NCS Survey said: "We have chosen GAPS as it will allow us to meet the high accuracy required without the need to deploy an acoustic array. It will assist NCS Survey in providing an extremely cost and time efficient method of meeting our clients needs both on this project and for future survey work – one of the key drivers in the current economic climate. We strongly believe in adopting technologies which drive down project costs by increasing time efficiencies on projects. IXSEA have a range of products that fit this category."

Ed Cheesman, UK Sales Manager of IXSEA said, "We are delighted to see forward thinking customers such as NCS Survey continue to invest in new technologies bucking the trend of the credit crunch and driving forward best practice in the subsea industry.

"GAPS, a subsea tracking system which works well in both deep and ultra shallow water, contains an in-built inertial navigation system which is mechanically coupled to a USBL head in the factory and calibrated, once and for all before delivery to IXSEA's clients. This makes it the natural choice for anyone looking to increase accuracy and reduce vessel time during marine survey operations."

For further information contact Anne Berg, Public Relations Manager, IXSEA, Email: anne.berg@ixsea.com

1.d) PRESENS AND PRIME TECHNOLOGY, LLC, ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

Presens AS, a Norwegian sensor technology company, is delighted to announce a new distribution agreement with Prime Technology, LLC of North Branford, CT, USA. Under the agreement, Prime Technology will sell and support all of Presens' high accuracy pressure sensors to the oceanographic, calibration & reference, test and industrial markets across the USA.

At the core of Presens' pressure sensors is the patented tubular sensing element that allows the sensor to operate in compressive stress mode. This robust design provides extraordinary resistance to adverse field conditions such as shock, vibration, over-pressure and pressure spikes. From deep sea to deep space applications, the Presens pressure transmitters are capable of servicing a wide array of harsh environments while providing a level of true accuracy, stability and reliability not found in ordinary sensors.

Frode Meringdal, President of Presens says, "We selected Prime Technology, LLC, as U.S. distributor for our high precision pressure sensors because of its strong technical expertise and valuable experience in design and production of electronic and electromechanical instruments and systems to the highest standards. In addition, the company shares our vision and values and is committed to providing customers with the best possible service. This means we are confident that Prime Technology will boost the exposure and sales of our sensors in the U.S. market."

Prime Technology, LLC, is a proprietary manufacturer of precision instruments and systems, serving the commercial, nuclear and military marketplaces. The company's five divisions manufacture products ranging from intricate electromechanical assemblies to state-of-the-art electronics.

"The addition of Presens' high performance pressure sensors to our product range is a very good strategic fit for Prime Technology. Presens' product line is a welcome addition to our existing product offering, and will further strengthen our position as a major supplier of test and measurement systems to government and industry in the U.S." says Keith Macdowall, Vice President of Sales at Prime Technology.

For further details, please contact: Frode Meringdal, President, PRESENS AS Phone +47 22 06 40 79 / 909 40 550 E-mail: frode.meringdal@presens.com Web: www.presens.com

1.e) C-NAV WORLD DGPS INTRODUCES ITS LATEST QC PACKAGE

A new release of C-Nav's C-MONITOR includes a full Quality Control (QC) display feature. The QC solution, specifically tailored to meet the exacting demands of C-Nav's real-time Precise Point Positioning service, uses a statistically sound RAIM algorithm to detect, identify and eliminate data outliers, then reports the rejection process via NMEA and binary messages.

The RAIM algorithm incorporates the latest analytical techniques and is the most comprehensive developed to date. After eliminating outliers, the process performs statistical analysis on the remaining observations using techniques that comply with IMO/NMEA requirements and exceed UKOOA recommendations.

C-MONITOR is fully user-configurable and includes a table of GPS satellite statistics with real-time displays from single or multiple GPS receivers and time series plots of the following: - Differential age- HDOP, PDOP, VDOP and - A number of satellites in the solution.

A sky plot of all visible GPS/GLONASS satellites (with status) is provided with variable scale scatter plots for monitoring satellite position stability. The additional QC parameters include the following: - Unit Variance, - F-test of Unit Variance, - 67 percent Error Ellipse (NMEA) and - 95 percent Error Ellipse (UKOOA).

The reliability statistics include the following: - Outlier rejection, - Type II error probability, - W-statistic (for each satellite in solution) and - Marginally Detectable Error (range and position).

"We are proud to introduce this new edition of C-Monitor," said C-Nav's Tim Patro. "This is the culmination of an intense development program by C-Nav and its partners and is, we believe, the first QC package specifically designed for real-time Precise Point Positioning."

For more information about C-Nav® quality positioning products and solutions please go to www.cnavgps.com, call C-Nav® Sales at +1 337 210 0000 or send an e-mail to cnav@cctech.us

1.f) LINKQUEST EXPANDS ITS FACILITY TO 20,000 SF

LinkQuest is pleased to announce the expansion of its facility at 6749 Top Gun Street to 20,000 square feet. Now occupying most of a state-of-the-art two-story building at the heart of the high tech region in San Diego, California.

LinkQuest has increased its space for R&D, manufacturing and training by more than 40%. This expansion to include a neighboring area in the same building is a direct result from significant growth of the company in the past two years and the tremendous opportunity to meet high demand for its best-selling SoundLink underwater acoustic modems, TrackLink USBL tracking systems, FlowQuest acoustic current profilers and NavQuest Doppler velocity logs in the worldwide market. The new facility will also be used for research and development of new products.

For more information, please visit www.link-quest.com or contact the company at sales@link-quest.com

1.g) C & C TECHNOLOGIES ENHANCES AUVS WITH CAMERA SYSTEM

C & C Technologies, Inc. (C & C), announces the addition of its proprietary camera technology on its Surveyor Class AUVs.

"Our new camera systems allow us to take high-resolution photographs of the seafloor with our AUVs," said Thomas Chance, Chief Executive Officer of C & C. "When a sonar target of interest is detected, we can instruct the AUV to fly in closely and take a grid of overlapping pictures which we can mosaic. The camera is great insurance when doing an AUV survey. If you happen to need it, you have it. However, if you don't need it, you haven't incurred any extra expenses."

The camera system can also be used to quickly image pipelines and other subsea infrastructure. This technological advance results in cost and time savings for clients.

The C-Surveyor proprietary camera system captures flash illuminated black and white photographs of the seabed at fixed time intervals. After each AUV dive, the images are recovered and post-processed. Each photograph has a resolution of 1360 by 1024 pixels.

With more than 600 employees worldwide, C & C Technologies, Inc. provides a variety of survey services including marine construction surveys, high-resolution geophysical surveys, geotechnical laboratory testing, land surveys, and C-Nav globally corrected GPS services.

For more information, please contact Jay Northcutt at +1 337 210 0000, visit C & C's Web site at: <http://www.cctech.us>, or send an e-mail to marketing@cctech.us

1.h) IXSEA SUPPLIES INS TO DUTCH NAVY

IXSEA has been awarded the contract to supply Inertial Navigation Systems (INS) for the Dutch Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessels which are under construction at Damen Schelde Naval Shipbuilding. The four new ships will be equipped with a dual PHINS configuration.

PHINS, Photonic Inertial Navigation System, outputs position, heading, roll, pitch, depth, velocity and heave. Its high accuracy inertial measurement unit is based on IXSEA's Fiber Optic Gyroscope (FOG) technology coupled with an embedded digital signal processor that runs an advanced Kalman filter.

In 2003 IXSEA delivered 18 PHINS units for the Dutch and Belgian Navies' minehunters as part of the PAM project (retrofit of minehunters).

"PHINS is cost effective, off-the-shelf and maintenance free. The Dutch Navy was indeed the first Navy to use off the shelf inertial navigation, a trend that has been replicated by navies worldwide," said Maarten Van Beelen, Defense, Sales Director Europe, Africa, Americas. "With its excellent track record with the Dutch Navy and many other navies, PHINS was the obvious choice for this project."

"IXSEA received the contract from Imtech Marine & Offshore who will integrate the PHINS systems onboard along with special converters to provide the required synchro signals. IXSEA has worked on several successful projects with Imtech Marine & Offshore in the past."

For further information contact Anne Berg, Public Relations Manager, IXSEA, Email: anne.berg@ixsea.com

2. WHO'S ON THE MOVE?

2.a) SONARDYNE INTERNATIONAL LTD APPOINTS NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CHAIRMAN FROM WITHIN

Sonardyne International Ltd, Yateley, UK, has announced the appointment of Mr John Ramsden as its new Managing Director. John is currently senior VP of Sonardyne's South-East Asia operation based in Singapore and will take up his new role in the UK on the 1st November 2009. John will take over from Mr Barry Clutton who now becomes group chairman. Barry, 60, has led Sonardyne's growth to record levels over the last three years, taking the company into new markets and guiding its investment in acquisitions and new product development. As group chairman, he will continue to provide strategic and financial guidance through the next stage of the company's development. John Partridge, Sonardyne's founder and current chairman, will continue to be involved with the business on a day-to-day basis and will remain on the board.

Mr Ramsden, 45, joined Sonardyne in 1996 during the early years of the company's expansion in the Asia Pacific region. Over the last three years he has led the Singapore office group through significant sales growth and the team's transition to a new custom-built sales, support and engineering facility in January 2009. Commenting on his appointment, Barry Clutton said; "John's reputation for strong leadership plus a strong affiliation with Sonardyne's customers, our technologies and our markets makes him the best possible choice to lead the company forward through its next stage of growth."

John and his family will relocate back to the UK over the next few months and, following the news of his new appointment said; "I am proud to be taking the helm at such an exciting period for the company. We have a great team ethos at Sonardyne and I'm looking forward to building on what has been a very successful period for the company. Although we are now in a particularly challenging economic climate, the benefits of our new products development programme and our market diversification strategy are already beginning to come through."

For further information please visit www.sonardyne.com

2.b) NEW CEO APPOINTED AT RESON

Mr. Kim Lehmann has been appointed CEO and President of RESON, the provider of underwater acoustic solutions.

Mr. Kim Lehmann accepted to join RESON as of the 1st of June. Mr. Lehmann brings a track record of developing customer focus, growing sales, and expanding business markets from the companies with whom he has served during the last 20 years.

Most recently he comes from a position as President & CEO of Spectronic Denmark, a leading developer and manufacturer of mission-critical surveillance solutions. Prior to this Mr. Lehmann worked as Director of Product Marketing and Communication at Brüel & Kjær Sound & Vibration Measurement A/S, which is a world leading manufacturer and supplier of sound and vibration solutions, including transducers and hydrophones.

Mr. Lehmann has an MBA from Copenhagen Business School, a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from the Danish Technical University, and an education as reserve officer in the Royal Danish Air Force.

Kim Lehmann states: "During my years working with acoustic products, I have known RESON as an innovative and professional company with a good reputation. I am looking forward to take RESON into the next phase of business development, where a number of new products and features to improve efficiency are being launched."

For further information please visit www.reson.com or Tel: +45 25 444 666.

2.c) SONARDYNE APPOINT SIMON REEVES AS NEW VP, NORTH AMERICA

Sonardyne International Ltd. has recently announced the appointment of Simon Reeves as the new Vice President North America, Sonardyne Inc. based in Houston, Texas.

Simon joins Sonardyne from Edgetech Marine USA, where he was responsible for expanding both their international and North American business over the last six years.

Simon brings to his new role an extensive and successful career in sales, marketing, international business development and general management. Prior to Edgetech, Simon worked for MacArtney Underwater Technology and Ultra Electronics - Ocean Systems Division. In both organisations, Simon enhanced the profile and reputation of the company and significantly increased product and system sales.

Over the coming months, Simon will be relocating from Boston, Massachusetts to Houston where he will lead Sonardyne's North American operation from the company's new premises. Commenting on the appointment, Barry Clutton, Sonardyne's Managing Director said, "We're delighted that Simon has joined us; he has wealth of knowledge and industry experience. Whilst focusing on developing our North American business, Simon will become an integral part of Sonardyne's global commercial team developing new business opportunities, supporting clients and providing world-class service facilities.

Simon added, "I'm relishing the opportunity to guide Sonardyne Inc. to the next level of success by expanding our sales and support operations. The company has got great technology and a dedicated team here in Houston."

3. EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS

3.a) OHMSETT OFFERS SPANISH LANGUAGE OIL SPILL RESPONSE AND STRATEGIES TRAINING

Leonardo, New Jersey, June 1, 2009 – Ohmsett, The National Oil Spill Response Test Facility, in partnership with Texas A&M University's National Spill Control School, will host a Spanish Language Oil Spill Response and Strategies Training on August 10-14, 2009 at the Ohmsett Facility, located in Leonardo, NJ USA.

The Ohmsett/TAMU NSCS training course is the premier oil spill training program designed with oil spill response personnel in mind. It is the ONLY program where students practice hands-on oil recovery operations in the test basin using REAL OIL IN WAVES. During the five-day course, students will learn the decision-making and responder skills essential to efficient oil spill response/recovery operations. All aspects of the course are taught either in Spanish or with expert interpreters.

The program also incorporates NIMS Incident Command System training, including Series ICS-100, the Incident Management Handbook and ICS forms, all of which are integrated into a table-top spill response exercise the last day of the training. Upon completion, students will receive FEMA ICS-100 certification and the National Spill Control School certificate of completion, which includes the 8-hour HAZWOPER refresher.

Spaces are available at \$1,350 per person for the week, which includes the course fee and training materials. Registration forms as well as a brief description of the course and agenda can be found on the Ohmsett website at <http://www.ohmsett.com/Training.html>. Security Forms, Registration, and Payment are due by July 1, 2009.

For more information, please contact Susan Cunneff at 732-866-7185 X12 or send e-mail to scunneff@ohmsettnj.com

3.b) IMarEST LAUNCHES PIRACY AND OFFSHORE SECURITY CONFERENCE TO LOOK AT PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS AND RESPONSES

Piracy and robbery at sea have been with us for thousands of years with the first document instances in the 13th century BC. They are, therefore, unlikely to be eradicated in the foreseeable future. The focus is now off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden where piracy has threatened international shipping since the beginning of Somalia's civil war in the early 1990s. Piracy attacks off the Somali coast this year have already surpassed the entire total of attacks for 2008 according to the Piracy Reporting Centre at the International Maritime Bureau (IMB). The under-reported incidents of largely terrorist attacks on offshore oil installations off Nigeria's Delta area also continue.

"Set against this background the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) plans a conference 'Piracy and Offshore Security - Practical solutions and responses' in Portsmouth, UK on Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 September to look at practical measures for minimising risk," explains IMarEST's Chief Executive, Marcus Jones.

"This is a particularly hot topic, with the protection of offshore installations, ships and their cargo and crew from piracy, robbery and attacks arguably the single most pressing issue for the maritime industry. As the name of the conference implies, and as befits the remit of IMarEST, our two-day event will be looking very much at the positive side of the solutions on offer and what ship and platform operators can do to counter the threat and lessen the risk to their vessels, crews and cargoes rather than at the geo-politics of piracy. We are delighted that Frank Mungo, FIMarEST, Past President IMarEST and Chairman EEZING will chair the conference, and look forward to a highly stimulating and relevant two days."

Training and proper preparation of crews; practical solutions offered by suppliers for a layered defence; and equipment demonstrations and displays will all come under the conference spotlight at this new event on the IMarEST calendar, which is being supported by EEZING (Exclusive Economic Zone Industry Group) and SMI (Society of Maritime Industries).

The first day will analyse the threat and will include an interactive workshop at which the scenario will be a developing crisis and how best to respond to it. The second day will look initially at the current government, military and international agency positions and views on how operators can best equip themselves to maintain security; and then provide practical solutions to counter the risk - covering services and infrastructure and methods of defending and hardening a vessel."

Further information including registration at the early bird rate and discounts for IMarEST Members and Marine Partners will be available shortly from www.imarest.org and from the Events Department at IMarEST, 80 Coleman Street, London EC2R 5BJ, UK. Tel: +44 (0)20 7382 2636; Fax: +44 (0)20 7382 2667. Email: events@imarest.org

4. JOB POSTINGS

4.a) COASTAL OCEANOGRAPHER REQUIRED BY PARTRAC LTD, GLASGOW, UK

Partrac Ltd is an oceanographic and marine geoscience consultancy based in Glasgow. Their markets include marine renewables, utilities, the dredging industry, ports and harbours and coastal management. They are a dynamic, client-focused organisation with a reputation for delivering high-quality data and consultancy for challenging projects.

To support and take forward their oceanographic team within the coastal and offshore sectors, they require a physical Oceanographer with a minimum of three years experience to implement their growing number of marine projects. The responsibilities include client liaison, project management, planning and survey logistics, oceanographic survey, data analysis, interpretation and report writing.

Experience/skills:

A strong practical background in physical oceanography; Experience with sub-surface and surface mooring installations and servicing; Proven experience in programming and deployment of oceanographic instrument systems; Experience of vessel-mounted ADCP and general hydrographic survey experience; A strong commitment to Health and Safety; Experience of working diligently within a Quality and Environmental Management System.

This unique position commands a competitive basic salary, offshore allowance and an annual performance related bonus.

Please send your CV together with a short statement on how you can assist Partrac to grow, to Judy McKay, Email: jmckay@partrac.com

4.b) INNOVATUM LTD REQUIRES FIELD SUPPORT/ WORKSHOP ENGINEER, BASED NEAR BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK, UK

Manufacturers of the successful SMARTRAK underwater magnetic pipeline and cable tracking systems requires a Field support/ workshop engineer, based near Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, England UK

Essentials: Must be willing to frequently work away from base, world-wide, as and when operationally required, sometimes at short notice, for periods of up to a maximum of 30 days, Good practical workshop knowledge and experience, Computer literate, Full UK driving licence, Valid EU passport, Level of fitness sufficient to pass Offshore Survival Training/ Medical, Ability to work in a small company environment, in a fast changing, challenging industry. Applications will be unsuccessful unless these criteria are fulfilled.

Field Engineer Duties: As and when required operationally, to operate Innovatum Ltd. equipment and/ or support other Innovatum Ltd. personnel, on survey vessels or onshore. Training and support will be given.

Workshop Duties: Building/maintaining/testing mechanical components of magnetic cable and pipeline tracking systems and other varied light engineering and workshop duties, including stores ordering and monitoring etc.

Applications by letter or email only to: Innovatum Ltd. units 11/12 Woodside Business Park, Ingham, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, IP31 1NR, UK or Email: innovingham@aol.com