

oceanbuzz



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

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Oceanbuzz Issue No. 103 – 16th June 2009

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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) ACHIEVING MAXIMUM CURRENT MEASUREMENT RETURN IN DYNAMIC SEA STATES

RS Aqua Ltd, Hampshire report that the third in a series of technical papers relating to the Seaguard[®] host platform, manufactured by Aanderaa Data Instruments A/S, Norway, is now available via their website. The first paper was released in March this year and compared data returns from the Seaguard[®] RCM and the TRDI Doppler volume sampler moored on the Scotian Shelf off Nova Scotia. The second paper, released in April, highlighted the features of Aanderaa's new fast response Dissolved Oxygen Optode in trials when fitted aboard the Seaguard[®] platform.

The latest paper, just released, concentrates on Seaguard[®] RCM current meter performance in dynamic sea conditions. There are two separate deployments featured. The first spans a period of 3 weeks in December 2006 off the Norwegian coast, where the inadequacies of the mooring buoyancy resulted in high knockdown and instrument tilting. The way in which the instrument coped with these unfavourable conditions is most impressive. The second example relates to a mooring located circa 250 km off the French west coast in the Bay of Biscay where wave action introduced significant vibration and spinning which was further complicated by dynamic tidal effects causing major dragging down episodes. Both papers illustrate how the Seaguard[®] RCM coped with the conditions to provide high quality data returns. Aanderaa Data Instruments A/S thank the mooring team at LOCEAN Paris, (Laboratoire d'Océanographie et du Climat) for making data from their Bay of Biscay deployment available and for assisting with the evaluation of the data.

Readers can download all three papers by visiting linking through to the Latest News section of RS Aqua's website at www.rsaqua.co.uk

1.b) MSI AWARDED 2nd LONG TERM MEASUREMENT CONTRACT OFFSHORE NORWAY WITHIN A YEAR

Metocean Services International (MSI) is pleased to announce that they have been awarded a 1 year current measurement programme for 9 locations in the far north of Norway (their 2nd long term contract to be awarded in Norway within a year).

The Norwegian Oil Industry Association (OLF) has initiated this study to increase their understanding and knowledge on metocean data in the Lofoten – Vesterålen area in Nordland county. The observations will also be given to support the Mareano programme. Some rigs with current profilers are already in place in the area and OLF is extending the current programmes with additional moorings.

For this programme MSI will deploy 9 separate moorings, each fitted with a current profiler (frequency depending on water depth) and CTD logger. The moorings will be serviced at intervals of 3 months using a vessel to be chartered by MSI. The project will be mobilised from Sandnessjoen. Positions have been designated according to the least conflict with fisheries (tracking system). The positions have been published in Notices to Mariners, and informations given to the Norwegian Fishermen's Association, the Norwegian Coastal Administration and to the Coast Guard.

The measurement programme is planned to last for 1 year, with servicing of the mooring scheduled for every 3 months. During the servicing, all moorings will be recovered onboard, data downloaded, new batteries fitted and all mooring components replaced prior to redeployment.

For additional information visit www.metoceanservices.com or e-mail info@metoceanservices.com.

1.c) SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH FOR INNOVATIVE NEW ULTRA-COMPACT OCEANSENSE PIPELINE LEAK DETECTION SYSTEM

Aberdeen based OceanTools recently launched an advanced and innovative subsea leak detection system, the OceanSENSE, based on high intensity LEDs and photo-multipliers packaged into a very compact RO V-mounted or diver-held unit.

A major oil company had a small leak of hydraulic fluid in an offshore wellhead control system. OceanTools were asked to mobilise the OceanSENSE detection system and an offshore engineer to try to find the leak. The system was offshore and on the job within 24 hours and was deployed via a

small ROV. The OceanSENSE performed flawlessly and the source of the leak was detected within just a few minutes.

The oil company was particularly impressed with the system and have provisionally awarded OceanTools further leak detection work.

For additional information please contact Kevin Parker kevin@oceantools.eu or visit the OceanTools website www.oceantools.eu

1.d) GLOBAL MARINE SYSTEMS AND VISSER & SMIT MARINE CONTRACTING LAUNCH SEABED POWER - JOINT VENTURE TO FOCUS ON SUBSEA POWER CABLE INSTALLATION

Global Marine Systems and Visser & Smit Marine Contracting, with over two centuries of combined experience in the installation and maintenance of all types of subsea cables, today announced the launch of their new company, Seabed Power. Focusing on the growing demand for subsea power cable installation in and around the UK and Europe, Seabed Power will install and maintain power cables from landfall to landfall or from landfall to offshore structures for the power and offshore renewable energy markets.

With an extensive fleet of vessels, ROVs and related equipment, Seabed Power will offer a complete 'grid to turbine' solution, without the need for subcontractors. On land, Seabed Power has extensive experience in terrestrial installation and trenchless construction techniques, including through densely populated areas where no other techniques are practical, and at the land/sea margin, using specialist Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) methods.

For further information contact Caroline.roycroft@fleishmaneuropa.com

2. EVENT, TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION NEWS

a) 44TH MARINE MEASUREMENT FORUM REPORT

The Marine Measurement Forum travelled north of the border for its 44th meeting, which took place in Edinburgh on 21st May. Sixty delegates joined host CodaOctopus for a day which not only upheld its tradition for providing a platform for information exchange on the latest developments, but also delivered a diverse range of presentation topics.

Underwater technology specialists, CodaOctopus, selected the magnificent Scotsman Hotel in central Edinburgh as the venue for the gathering. Once home to the giant printing presses of the Scotsman Newspaper, the original baronial offices have been converted into a stylish hotel which provided excellent hospitality.

Twelve speakers gave presentations on topics which included sensors and sensing technologies, sub tidal species, 3D visualisation, the operational oceanography network, instruments and systems and effects on coastal processes and settings. The fascinating topics were accompanied by a collection of remarkable pictures, images and even sound clips.

The award for delivering a presentation at an extraordinarily rapid pace whilst remaining perfectly articulate went to Blair Cunningham of CodaOctopus R&D. Allocated the slot prior to the lunch break, he was determined to share all the impressive high resolution images and technological advances of the Coda Echoscope 3D real time imaging sonar.

The delegates came from north, south, east and west corners of the British Isles as well as Europe and comprised many familiar faces. Several delegates were attending for the first time and will be among the MMF community in the future

In his closing remarks, Managing Director, Stephen Auld announced details of the next MMF which will be hosted by the National Physical Laboratory in Middlesex on 4th November. For further information on the MMF, visit www.intoceansys.co.uk/marine-measurement-forum.php

3. JOB POSTINGS

3.a SALES MANAGER BASED EDINBURGH, UK

Due to their continued growth CodaOctopus are recruiting for a Sales Manager. Experience in the field of ROV operations or marine construction will be an advantage to applicants along with knowledge of multibeam sonar technology, motion reference systems and geophysics. Applicants are likely to have had a minimum of 3 years' experience at a similar level.

You will possess excellent verbal and written skills in communicating and negotiating at all levels. Experience in selling equipment into the marine environment, both directly to customers as well as through a network of worldwide representatives, would be an advantage, but not essential.

Whilst based in their Edinburgh, UK office, considerable UK and worldwide travel is a requirement. A very competitive salary is offered along with other associated benefits. Please send a CV with covering letter to Stephen Auld, Managing Director, CodaOctopus Products Ltd, Anderson House, 1 Breadalbane Street, Edinburgh, EH6 5JR, UK or call Tel: +44 (0)131 561 1501. Closing date for applications is 30th June, 2009