oceanbuzz

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

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Oceanbuzz Issue No. 124 – 10th November 2009

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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) FIRST IT WAS 10...THEN 100...THEN 1000MBPS...NOW IT'S 10GBPS!

Bowtech Products Ltd recently introduced their latest MOOG-PRIZM product - 10 Gigabit Ethernet to single or multi mode Fibre Optic Media Converter. This 8-Port 10Gbps system provides the perfect solution for converting 10/100/1000Mbps twisted pair media to fiber optic media at up to 10Gbps.

The fundamental feature of the converter is that this system has the ability to auto configure to allow interface with either 10Base-T, 100Base-T or 1000Base-T on the RJ45 jack and is fully compliant with IEEE 802.3, 802.3u, 802.3ab, 802.3ae (10G over fibre) and 802.3aq (10 G over multimode fibre) standards.

The 10 Gigabit Ethernet switch is available either as an OEM board solution or a stand alone product, suitably packaged. Designed to be operated in harsh environments, this compact and lightweight system supports automatic address learning and aging. The converter features full system diagnostics with GUI output and jumbo frame support.

A typical application for this product would be subsea vehicles, ethernet sensor pods, radar, machine vision, electro-optical sensor telemetry and CPU-CPU.

To discover further aspects of what this product can do for you, contact Bowtech Products Ltd now. For more information, please contact: Mike Winstanley on Tel: +44 (0)1224 772345 or Email: bowtech@bowtech.co.uk, or visit Web: www.bowtech.co.uk.

1.b) DELIVERY OF PRESENTATION ON OCEAN OBSERVATIONS AND RESPONSE TO CYCLONE GONU (GULF OF OMAN AND ARABIAN SEA)

Prof. Steven DiMarco and Dr. Matthew Howard from Texas A&M University delivered a presentation on observations and modelling results of Cyclone Gonu in the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman. This cyclone caused extensive damage along the Oman coast during the summer of 2007. The presentation took place at The Chedi Resort.

The physical response of the ocean during the passage of the cyclone was captured by a monitoring system that uses fiber optic cable and power supplied from a shore facility. This unique system allows for reliable, real-time data acquisition without bandwidth or power limitations. The system is designed, owned and maintained by Lighthouse R & D Enterprises, Inc., and is supported in Oman by the Ministry of Fisheries Wealth.

The presentation emphasized the success of the Lighthouse monitoring system in capturing the ocean's response to the cyclone. Key findings are: the ocean responded on two time scales including 3-4 day and 16 day oscillations; the cyclone influenced temperature, salinity, and oxygen levels, in addition to both the horizontal and vertical structure of the water column; model results from the Lighthouse system indicate coastal Kelvin and topographic Rossby waves are present. "This is the first time that such oceanographic variability has been observed in the northwest Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Oman" says Prof. DiMarco.

See http://www.lighthousehouston.com for additional information on Lighthouse R & D Enterprises, Inc.

1.c) EASYTRAK NEXUS SHINES IN KOREA

Applied Acoustics' Field Engineer Mark Eccleston is recently back from Korea where he lead a training course covering all operational aspects of the new Easytrak Nexus, the latest USBL tracking system from the company. KORDI, the Korean Maritime and Ocean Engineering Research Institute, purchased the system unit following comparative trials over the summer months and it was put through its paces in the waters of Geoje Bay, SW of Busan, this October.

"The Korean engineers were very pleased with Nexus," said Mark. "It has lots of special features which make it really flexible and versatile, and now with multiple target tracking and Spread Spectrum Technology for improved range stability, its accuracy could be demonstrated very clearly. Although my Korean is very limited, anyone could see the performance was good - the system spoke for itself."

As with all Easytrak systems, Nexus works with a variety of Applied Acoustics' underwater targets and beacon types including pingers, responders, release and positioning transponders. The Broadband

Spread Spectrum Technology, which rejects unwanted reflected signals, makes operations easier in challenging locations such as the shallow waters of ports and harbours.

For further information please contact: Sue Meeken, Marketing Co-ordinator. E-mail: smeeken@appliedacoustics.com or Tel: +44 (0)1493 440355, Fax: +44 (0)1493 440720 Web: www.appliedacoustics.com.

1.d) SEEBYTE'S DISTRIBUTOR NEW ZEALAND OCEAN TECHNOLOGY GARNER ACCLAIM FROM NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

SeeByte, a leader in creating smart software for unmanned underwater vehicles, is pleased to announce that New Zealand Ocean Technology, Ltd. has been honoured by the New Zealand Ministry of Defence with the Award of Excellence to Industry 2009. Nominated by the Royal New Zealand Navy, New Zealand Ocean Technology's award acknowledged the provision of professional services, remote helpdesk and onsite support for Mine Counter Measures equipment. SeeByte's SeeTrack Military technology was utilised to provide a situational awareness solution to assist personnel conducting maritime Mine Counter Measures (MCM) build a single picture of the operational environment by processing data from a wide variety of assets.

"The achievement of this award reflects both the performance of our company and our suppliers and I wish to acknowledge the significant contribution that was made to our Mine Counter Measures project by the SeeByte team. The strength of their SeeTrack Military solution is its ability to provide the operator one single tactical environment to plan missions, track assets, post-process data, correlate and fuse contacts, re-plan, re-acquire and ID missions, and report results up the chain-of-command. SeeTrack allows the operators to fuse data from multiple systems and sensors, all in one laptop or desktop environment. This flexibility made SeeTrack a vital ingredient in our offering to the Royal New Zealand Navy as we were faced with integrating a towed EdgeTech sonar 4200 and REMUS 100 AUVs equipped with Marine Sonic Technologies' side-scan sonars. SeeTrack provided a single interface for mission-planning and analysis of all the assets," commented Ron Tyson of New Zealand Ocean Technology, Ltd.

"We are very pleased that the successful partnership forged between SeeByte and New Zealand Ocean Technology has reaped the rewards and commendation from the Royal New Zealand Navy and the Ministry of Defence. We are proud of this project and honoured to be a part of this award. Integrating our software systems to assist nearly every navy across the globe, including the U.S. and Royal Netherlands navies, is an integral part of our growth and we like to encourage distributors to approach us with collaborative projects such as these," said Dr. Ioseba Tena, SeeByte Sales Manager.

For more information, contact: Kristen Gucwa, +44 (0) 131 447 4200 kristen.gucwa@seebyte.com

1.e) NORTEK UK 4TH STUDENT EQUIPMENT GRANT – ONLY 2 WEEKS LEFT!

Only two weeks left for Post Graduate students to submit their applications for Nortek UK 4th "Student Equipment Grant".

The Nortek UK Award scheme is open to any post-graduate student working in oceanography, ocean engineering or other fields of marine science and studying in the UK or the Republic of Ireland.

The winner of "Student Equipment Grant" scheme is loaned his or her choice of Nortek equipment for a three-month period free of charge. In addition, £500 in travel expenses is provided to cover the cost of attending a national or international conference, where they are expected to present their scientific results. A second prize, comprising of just the equipment loan, is also available.

The student equipment is usually selected from our standard range instruments, which includes the Aquadopp current meter, Aquadopp Profiler, AWAC and Vector or Vectrino Velocimeter. However, for the 2008/2009 winner, Nortek built a special 2D high resolution profiler for use in a laboratory tank. Details of this project and all the other past winners, can be found on our special equipment grant website www.nortekweb.co.uk

Proposals submitted by the students are judged on:
•Scientific merit
•Innovative spirit
•Demonstrated need for Nortek equipment

• Ability to obtain quantifiable results in a 3 month deployment

Applicants have until the 20th of November to submit their applications. The winning awards will be announced on 11th December, with the intention that the equipment selected will be available for the students, anytime after the Christmas break.

Full details of the Nortek UK 4th Student Equipment and Travel Grant Award, can be found on www.nortekweb.co.uk or contact Gordon Jones at Email: g.jones@nortekuk.co.uk or Tel: + 44 (0) 1428 751953.

1.f) LAUNCH OF THE DPII ROV SURVEY SV NOORDHOEK PATHFINDER

On Saturday 7th November 2009, the launch of the Noordhoek Pathfinder took place at the De Hoop Shipyard in Foxhol – The Netherlands. She is a state of the art 62m DPII ROV and Survey Support Vessel. The launching ceremony was officiated by Miss Julia Anna Noordhoek, granddaughter of Mr. Leen Noordhoek, and daughter of Mr. Cees Noordhoek, Directors of Noordhoek.

The Noordhoek Pathfinder is currently undergoing the final stages of installation and commissioning of the crane and survey spread prior to commencing sea trials. The Noordhoek Pathfinder will be fully commissioned and ready for deployment in Q1 2010.

The Noordhoek Pathfinder is mobilised with a Grade 2 Dynamic Positioning system (DPII), diesel electric drive, a large moon pool, a 25 Tonnes offshore crane. She is also equipped with Work & Inspection Class ROV systems, Side Scan Sonar Tow-Fish, McCartney Focus 2 ROTV systems and a technologically advanced survey suite.

For more information, please see their website: www.noordhoek.net and/or contact Mrs. Annemarie Noordhoek-Kok at Email: a.noordhoek@noordhoek.net.

1.g) MARINE TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS

An election this fall will bring one new vice president to the Board of Directors of the Marine Technology Society (MTS) while retaining three others. The positions begin January 1 and continue for two years.

Justin Manley will take over the position of vice president of government and public affairs from Karen Kohanowich. Manley is director of scientific and commercial business for Palo Alto Calif.-based Liquid Robotics and editor of the society's MTS Journal.

Returning to the Board next year will be retired Navy Capt. Karin Lynn; Jill Zande, director of the Marine Advanced Technology Education Center in Monterey, Calif.; and Jerry Wilson, Ph.D, with San Diego-based Fugro Pelagos. Lynn will continue as vice president of publications, Zande retains the position of vice president of education and research, and Wilson remains vice president of industry and technology.

The Marine Technology Society is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit professional society comprising ocean engineers, technologists, policy makers and educators. Incorporated in 1963, it provides the ocean community with forums for the exchange of information and ideas through its peer-reviewed MTS Journal, conferences, newsletters and Web site www.mtsociety.org.

1.h) MACARTNEY OPENS NEW SUBSIDIARY IN BRAZIL

In response to increasing activity in Brazil, the MacArtney Underwater Technology Group, based in Denmark, has opened a new sales office in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Expansion into the area will be further supported by a workshop in Macae that will provide MacArtney standard service locally.

The MacArtney Underwater Group has strengthened its presence in South America with the opening of a new subsidiary office in the major offshore Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro. Headed by General Manager, Marcio Robles, the sales office will provide a professional local presence for the Brazilian and South American market, supported by the long-established global MacArtney network.

MacArtney Brazil will also offer customers local testing, integration and installation through the planned new workshop in Macae. It will provide MacArtney global standard moulding, fibre optic and electronic service and engineering.

For further information please contact MacArtney do Brasil Ltda., Tel: +55 21 8394 1852, mr@macartney.com or visit www.macartney.com.

2. EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS

2.a) OCEANS'09 CONFERENCE EXPLORES "ENGINE THAT DRIVES THE HEALTH OF THE PLANET"

Understanding the processes that affect the oceans is crucial to addressing the effects of climate on the planet, according to John Delaney, Ph.D., a plenary session speaker at the OCEANS'09 MTS/IEEE Biloxi Conference held on the Mississippi Gulf Coast on October 27–29.

Delaney, professor in the University of Washington School of Oceanography and director of the Neptune Cabled Seafloor Observatory, greeted nearly 1,500 conference attendees from around the world. Calling the ocean "the engine that drives the health of the planet," he emphasised the importance of measuring and understanding the ocean in order to plan for the planet's future. In addition to Delaney, the plenary session speakers were Jerry L. Miller, Ph.D., with the White House Office of Science and Technology, and Edward C. Gough, deputy director of Naval Meteorology and Oceanography.

Corresponding with Dr. Delaney's presentation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration sponsored sessions each day relating to building an Integrated Ocean Observation System. Town hall sessions on ocean measurement and policy were also daily events. In addition, there were sessions covering a wide range of topics on marine technology, operational naval oceanography and marine research. In all 375 technical papers were presented. The Conference's Organizational Co-Chair Laurie Jugan said that the "stellar technical program" was an important reason for the conference's success.

The next annual conference is scheduled for September 20–23, 2010, in Seattle, Wash. The theme of the OCEANS'10 MTS/IEEE Seattle Conference is "The global ocean is an uncommon resource demanding common responsibility."

For further information on the next annual conference please visit http://www.oceans10mtsieeeseattle.org/

3. JOB POSTINGS

3.a) EGS INTERNATIONAL SEEK MARINE AND METOCEAN SURVEY ENGINEERS

EGS is an international marine survey company based in Bordon, Hampshire, and is currently looking to recruit experienced engineers to work with a wide range of monitoring and survey equipment in the areas of Metocean, Geophysics and Hydrography.

As an Engineer you will be a vital member of the survey team working alongside other engineers and surveyors. Your duties will include the building, installation, servicing and maintenance of a large and varied range of equipment both offshore and onshore. You will be asked to work in some challenging global environments and you should be prepared to be away from home for extended periods of time.

The successful candidate will ideally hold an HND / Degree in Electronics or Engineering. You must possess good interpersonal and organisational skills, along with a sound IT background to include a working knowledge of serial and network communications. Previous experience of working within the marine survey industry would be an advantage although not essential.

Competitive salary and benefits package is available to the successful candidate.

Please apply in writing enclosing a CV to Debbie Jenkins, Commercial Director, EGS International Ltd, 27 Woolmer Way, Bordon, Hampshire, GU35 9QE or Email: djenkins@egssurvey.co.uk.