

# oceanbuzz!

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

This **FREE OF CHARGE** newsletter is brought to you by the organisers of the Ocean Business event [www.oceanbusiness.com](http://www.oceanbusiness.com). It is **FREE** to subscribe to and **FREE** to include your news articles. Send us your news and info on events so we can spread the word to the Ocean Technology industry. To add your colleagues to the Oceanbuzz circulation list simply email their full contact details to: [info@intelligentexhibitions.com](mailto:info@intelligentexhibitions.com) or go to the Oceanbuzz website [www.oceanbuzz.org](http://www.oceanbuzz.org) where you can also download past issues as well.

Oceanbuzz Issue No. 127 – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009

## INDEX

### 1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

- a) Drifting Buoys from AADI Follow oil Slicks and Save Lives
- b) Unique System Stocks-Up with TSS Technology
- c) MacArtney Supplies Visionary Launch and Recovery System
- d) RESON Completes Sale of SeaBat 7112 System to WASS of Italy
- e) Odim Brooke Ocean Receives MVPTM30-350 Order
- f) Veripos Positioning for ER Offshore

### 2. WHO'S ON THE MOVE?

- a) Announcement of Murray Scotney's Relationship with ROMOR

### 3. JOB POSTINGS

- a) Applied Acoustic Engineering Require Electronic Engineers, Great Yarmouth, UK

## 1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

### 1.a) DRIFTING BUOYS FROM AADI FOLLOW OIL SLICKS AND SAVE LIVES

In May 2008 AADI (Aanderaa Data Instruments AS) entered an agreement with NOFO (The Norwegian Clean Sea Association for Operating Companies) to develop a small drifting buoy that has similar drift characteristics as an oil slick on the sea surface. Information from the Drifting Buoys is transferred by AIS and displayed on the electronic chart system onboard any vessel that has up-to-date ECDIS software according to IMO standards.

During 2009 the buoy, with a diameter of approximately 30 cm, has been tested in a number of different oil spill exercises as well as in man overboard exercises and other types of exercise.

According to the design specifications the vessels should be able to pick up the AIS signals from the buoy at a distance of at least 3 nautical miles, the tests have shown that good signals were picked up at a distance of 7 nautical miles with wave heights of 10 meters and 12 nautical miles on a calm sea. Drop tests confirmed that the buoy will withstand a drop from the specified altitude of 50 meters above sea level, which makes it possible to drop from a fixed installation or from a helicopter.

For further information please contact Trond Gulbrandsøy, Sales Manager, on Tel: +47 55 60 49 37 or Email: [Trond.Gulbrandsoy@aadi.no](mailto:Trond.Gulbrandsoy@aadi.no).

### 1.b) UNIQUE SYSTEM STOCKS-UP WITH TSS TECHNOLOGY

Aberdeen's newest equipment rental company, Unique System, has made a valuable addition to its inventory with the purchase of DMS-05 motion sensor and Meridian Subsea gyro compass technology from Teledyne TSS. The equipment will be available to meet the needs of demanding rental customers and it reflects the policy of the new office which aims to become the first point of call for anyone seeking to work with the most advanced technology on the market.

The DMS is manufactured by Teledyne TSS at its advanced new factory in Watford, UK. It is a highly regarded compact and lightweight three axis dynamic motion sensor that is depth rated to 3,000 metres as standard. Its performance is such that it can measure roll and pitch accurate to 0.05° within a range of ±30° and heave accurate to 5cm or 5% (whichever is greater) through a range of ±10 metres. It offers a range of features that make it an ideal choice for users needing to compensate for vessel motion during multi-beam survey work.

The Meridian subsea gyrocompass is another industry-leading product from Teledyne TSS that is expected to be in demand from ROV users and companies involved in seabed construction projects. It was launched as the smallest, lightest, most flexible and accurate gyrocompass available to commercial users. Depth rated to 3,000 metres, the Meridian Subsea RP version bought by Unique also includes a roll and pitch module as well as the standard dynamically tuned gyro which provides a level of performance and accuracy unmatched by even the latest fibre optic designs. The new gyro has consequently been developed to provide reliable maintenance-free operation with a MTBF in excess of 30,000 hours. The only attention that the Meridian Subsea is ever likely to require is occasional calibration.

For further information on Unique Systems (UK) Ltd please contact Ray Hughes on Tel: +44 (0)1224 853999 or Email: [ray@uniquegroup.com](mailto:ray@uniquegroup.com).

For further information on Teledyne TSS Ltd please contact Carolyn Jones on Tel: +44 (0)1923 470800 or Email: [cjones@tss-int.com](mailto:cjones@tss-int.com).

### 1.c) MACARTNEY SUPPLIES VISIONARY LAUNCH AND RECOVERY SYSTEM

MacArtney's latest supply to the new Skandi Acergy, a well equipped offshore construction vessels, brought launch and recovery systems into an entirely new dimension. 2 complete twin systems of 3 harmonised winch arrangements operate work class ROVs through the middle of the vessel, allowing for deployment in very heavy seas.

Normally, ROV systems are launched from the aft of a vessel or over one of the sides using Active Heave Compensation winches that allow them to operate in heavy seas. When Acergy acquired the Skandi they envisioned a system that could go beyond the current limit and designed a launch and recovery system that would launch ROVs through a fully automated moon pool system in the centre of the vessel.

Often the most risky part of an ROV dive is the launch and recovery. Winds and sea swell have an enormous effect on the launch, operation and recovery of tethered vehicles from a vessel. In heavy seas, pitch and roll can alter the position of a vehicle in relation to the water by many metres in seconds, causing potentially damaging snatch loads. Strong winds can also cause unwanted movement of suspended equipment and very strong winds can even render launching impossible.

Launching the vehicle from the centre of the vessel minimises the effect of sea conditions as the centre is the most stable place in regard to both pitch and roll. It also provides protection from the wind.

This winch and control system allows ROV launch and operation in sea states far out of the reach of ordinary vessels. Combined with AHC, the launch and recovery system provides the ultimate protection for the ROV during the launch and recovery period. Each of the twin systems installed on the Skandi is designed for sea states equivalent to significant wave heights of 6 metres [Hs 6]. The protected launch and recovery significantly extends the operational window, reducing costly down time.

The system of winches and sheaves used to launch the ROV through the centre of the vessel employs three different types of winches that run at different speeds. The control system includes functions, such as opening and closing the moon pool doors and automated ROV orientation and emergency recovery features. Making this design work together as a fully automated system required precise, advanced engineering and project management.

For further information please contact Niels Erik Hedeager at [neh@macartney.com](mailto:neh@macartney.com) or Tel: +45 76132000.

#### **1.d) RESON COMPLETES SALE OF SEABAT 7112 SYSTEM TO WASS OF ITALY**

RESON has delivered a SeaBat 7112 system to Whitehead Alenia Sistemi Subacquei (WASS) of Italy, part of the Finmeccanica group of companies.

The system will be used in conjunction with other WASS and SELEX systems as part of a harbor security System.

SeaBat 7112 multibeam sonar system for diver detection consists of a circular array and projector ensonifying a cylindrical volume of water up to 1000 meters range. Designed to detect small targets such as divers with closed circuit re-breather equipment, the systems will track and alert operators of their presence on a geo-referenced map of the area.

For further information please contact: Tommy Sturesson, RESON A/S, Denmark on Tel: +45 40636022 or Email: [Tommy.Sturesson@reson.com](mailto:Tommy.Sturesson@reson.com).

#### **1.e) ODIM BROOKE OCEAN RECEIVES MVPTM30-350 ORDER**

The College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences (COAS) of Oregon State University ([www.coas.oregonstate.edu](http://www.coas.oregonstate.edu)) has placed an order for an ODIM MVP30-350 moving vessel profiling system. COAS is a leader in the study of the Earth as an integrated system, providing scientific understanding to address complex environmental challenges through field experiments, theoretical investigations and numerical modeling and simulations. The MVP30-350 will be used to assist COAS to gather oceanographic information to support their research.

The ODIM MVPTM30-350 is a self-contained, electrical “smart” winch which collects oceanographic data using various third party sensors while the vessel is underway at speeds up to 12 knots. The MVP30-350 for COAS will be outfitted with AML microCTD and Seapoint Fluorometer sensors.

The MVP30-350 will initially be installed on OSU's small vessel, R/V Elakha, but is eventually destined for the UNOLS ship R/V Wecoma for further oceanographic research.

For further information on the capabilities of ODIM Brooke Ocean contact: Derrick Peyton at Email: [dpeyton@brooke-ocean.com](mailto:dpeyton@brooke-ocean.com) or visit: [www.brooke-ocean.com](http://www.brooke-ocean.com).

#### **1.f) VERIPOS POSITIONING FOR ER OFFSHORE**

Veripos, a leader in the provision of precise Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) positioning solutions to the offshore oil and gas industry, has extended its long-term working agreement with Hamburg-

based ship management organisation, ER Offshore. The agreement, which has been in place since early 2008, covers the provision of a wide variety of globally available precise positioning services. They are delivered via Veripos LD2 fully integrated hardware platforms utilising Verify DP, a state-of-the-art graphical user interface.

Veripos currently provides high-accuracy services and support facilities for six of ER Offshore's UT755 LN Platform Supply Vessels (PSVs). Designed to transport supplies to drill sites and production facilities, the vessels have been operating on behalf of leading exploration and production companies in Brazil, the Gulf of Mexico and the North Sea.

Veripos has now been contracted by ER Offshore to provide identical high-precision GNSS positioning services, equipment and software for a further two new DP2 UT776 PSVs and a series of six new DP2 anchor-handling tug supply (AHTS) vessels, the first of which, ER Vittoria, is due to begin service at the end of this year. The remainder of the fleet is expected to be commissioned throughout 2010 and 2011.

The PSV and AHTS vessels form part of a major fleet of offshore ships maintained and chartered for worldwide operation by ER Offshore, the operating division of one of Europe's leading ship management organisations whose overall fleet of vessels also includes 77 container ships and 24 bulk carriers.

For further information on Veripos please visit: [www.veripos.com](http://www.veripos.com) or further information on ER Offshore is at [www.er-ship.com](http://www.er-ship.com).

### **1.g) IMCA's e-CMID and CMID DATABASE GOES LIVE!**

The International Marine Contractors Association's (IMCA) invaluable 'Common Marine Inspection Document' (CMID) is now available electronically as e-CMID along with a secure online database for the reports. Both are designed to further enhance the consistent completion and availability of completed CMID reports.

Clients, vessel operators and inspectors can all register as users now at the new dedicated website - [www.imcacmid.com](http://www.imcacmid.com) - where registration and use is free to all, both members and non-members of IMCA alike.

Further information is at [www.imca-int.com/cmids](http://www.imca-int.com/cmids) and available from the Association at 5 Lower Belgrave Street, London SW1W 0NR, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 20 7824 5520; and email: [imca@imca-int.com](mailto:imca@imca-int.com).

## **2. WHO'S ON THE MOVE?**

### **2.a) ANNOUNCEMENT OF MURRAY SCOTNEY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ROMOR**

Mr Murray Scotney, upon his retirement and illustrious career at the world renowned Bedford Institute of Oceanography, in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, has entered into an agreement with ROMOR whereby he will work closely with ROMOR to expand and develop their Technical Service offerings to clients.

Murray has had a distinguished career in the operational and technical side of oceanographic research at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. I am particularly pleased that he will bring his extensive knowledge and experience to ROMOR to better serve the growing need to provide expertise in the delivery of technical service and support to the oceanographic community worldwide.

Darrin Verge initiated the growth of ROMOR over the past two years with 'ROAR - ROMOR Ocean Application Research'. They are very pleased to have the capability and ability to offer current and future clients more in-depth expertise.

As a consequence, and in addition to ROMOR's current sales and service offerings, ROMOR will expand its technical services offerings to all clients. In particular, we will expand our services in Ocean Application Solutions, with the ability to offer our customers fully integrated project solutions and expert training where desired.

ROMOR and Murray will be in touch with clients to discuss opportunities to be of further service in Ocean Application Solutions. Murray will be tasked with growing ROMOR's Technical Services capability to the Ocean Technology Industry.

Should you have an immediate interest within any of the current or new areas of ROMOR's capability, please contact them on Tel: +1 (902) 466-7000 Ext. 705 or Email: [mrcotney@romor.ca](mailto:mrcotney@romor.ca).

### 3. JOB POSTINGS

#### 3.a) APPLIED ACOUSTIC ENGINEERING REQUIRE ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS, GREAT YARMOUTH, UK

Applied Acoustic Engineering is a manufacturer of high value marine related electronic-acoustic products with a global distributor network and an international client base. Due to continued expansion, they require enthusiastic and capable degree level qualified engineers to join their team.

##### **Field Support Engineer / Test Engineer**

To carry out field support, training and technical seminars on the equipment they manufacture and also to carry out workshop duties as required. Field experience with geophysical equipment would be an advantage. Estimate of 60 – 80 days away per year.

##### **Electronic Design Engineer**

An experienced engineer is required, ideally with a broad level of skills. However an individual with a specialism to complement their existing design team would also be considered. They have projects waiting, let them know what you can do! The ability to work on projects from concept through to production would also be useful.

In return Applied Acoustic Engineering offer:

- Salary commensurate with experience
- 28 days starting holiday per annum including national holidays.
- Admission to the company pension scheme
- Profit related bonus.

Applications in writing or by email, including CV, should be sent to the Personnel Manager at [personnel@appliedacoustics.com](mailto:personnel@appliedacoustics.com) or to: Applied Acoustic Engineering Limited, Marine House, Marine Park, Garton Hall Road, Great Yarmouth, NR31 0NB, UK. [www.appliedacoustics.com](http://www.appliedacoustics.com).