

oceanbuzz!

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

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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) LOCAL COMPANY BENEFITS FROM GOVERNMENT'S NEW OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENTS

Gardline Marine Sciences Ltd is one of the first companies to benefit from Round 3. The contract to provide Ornithological Surveys services to the Forewind consortium, development partners for the Dogger Bank zone, has been awarded to Gardline Environmental Ltd. The two year contract not only includes the provision of ESAS (European Seabirds At Sea) trained seabird surveyors but also the dedicated 24 month charter of the 65m MV Sea Profiler, one of the Gardline Group's fleet of 18 survey vessels.

Forewind comprises four leading international energy companies, committed to securing all the necessary consents required for the construction and development of Dogger Bank.

The award highlights the strengths of Gardline Environmental Ltd, which will be applying valuable skills and experience learnt from many years supporting the developing offshore renewable energy sector. The Dogger Bank zone is not only the largest of the new sites; it will also be the furthest offshore and presents a number of significant technical challenges.

Marine Wildlife surveys are one of the first steps that have to be undertaken before further consent licenses are awarded by the Crown Estates and these are dependent on approval from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). The Marine Wildlife Department at Gardline Environmental already has considerable experience in the offshore wind sector providing services to other offshore wind farms including the 300MW Thanet development in the Thames Estuary. The department not only offers Ornithological surveys but also marine mammal pre-development surveys, as well as marine mammal mitigation and noise profiling during windfarm construction phase.

For further information on Marine Wildlife surveys or Gardline Environmental Ltd. services, please contact Phil Durrant, Managing Director on +44 (0)1493 845 600 or alternatively on phil.durrant@gardline.com.

1.b) CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY HELPS LAUNCH ITALIAN NEXT GENERATION BUOY NETWORK

AXYS Technologies, Inc. (AXYS) have announced that it has delivered seventeen customized oceanographic data buoys to Italy within a 4-month period, a record achievement for the company. Ten of the seventeen buoys are already deployed and operational within various Italian ports; remaining buoys will be deployed in the next few weeks. The data buoys are based on the well proven WatchKeeper buoy platform and TRIAXYS Directional Wave Sensor. Wave, wind and other data from the buoys are used by local mariners and port authorities to make vessel traffic management decisions. The Italian government also uses the data for wave and climate research studies. Live data from these buoys can be seen at the following link: <http://www.envirtech.org/ron.htm>.

For further information contact AXYS at: info@axys.com or visit www.axystechnologies.com.

1.c) DUAL-ROLE, DEEP WATER ROV OPENS NEW MARKETS

A greater range of deep water applications is now possible with a new dual-role, 3000 metre-rated ROV from Saab Seaeye. Pioneering technology in the new Cougar XTi electric ROV means the vehicle can go deeper, has a smaller launch system, a thinner umbilical, clearer interface, smarter fault diagnostics, easier configuration and tighter piloting.

Managing director, Dave Grant sees the innovative new vehicle opening up a whole new market for the concept of a combined inspection and light work-ROV. "Operating to 3000m depth, the Cougar XTi can perform tasks independently, or in support of a construction class hydraulic ROV."

He says it also brings important cost savings in deck space with a compact, single skid solution for the launch and recovery system (LARS). Shrinking the LARS came from a breakthrough by Saab Seaeye engineers who managed to reduce the umbilical from a typical 32mm down to 20mm. The thinner umbilical not only significantly reduces the winch drum size, but offers considerably less drag in the water in strong currents.

For more information please contact Dave Grant, Saab Seaeye Ltd on Tel: +44 (0)1489 898000 or dgrant@seaeye.com. www.seaeye.com

1.d) ODIM BROOKE OCEAN RECEIVES ODIM LOPCTM ORDER

ODIM Brooke Ocean has received an order for the delivery of an ODIM LOPC™ to the Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institute, Institute for Baltic Sea Fisheries via the MacArtney Underwater Technology Group. The Institute for Baltic Sea Fisheries is an independent research institution specializing in research on the development of commercially valuable stocks of fishes and invertebrates and monitoring of fish assemblages in the European Seas, in the North Atlantic and in the Antarctic Ocean and Management models, fisheries oceanography and climate change. The ODIM LOPC™ will be integrated with the MacArtney Triaxus towed vehicle. The Institute of Baltic Sea Research will be taking delivery of the ODIM LOPC™ Spring of 2010.

The ODIM LOPC™ is the next generation in plankton profiling. The LOPC's high speed processing and improved detection plane provides detection counts at higher resolutions and higher concentrations with lower coincidence. The system can be installed on various towbody scenarios as well as on the ODIM MVP™ multi sensor free fall fish, enabling vertical real-time water column profiling while underway at speeds up to 12 knots.

For further information please contact Derrick Peyton, ODIM Brooke Ocean on Tel: +1 902 482 3262 or Email: dpeyton@brooke-ocean.com. www.brooke-ocean.com.

1.e) THE FULL PICTURE FOR MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Kongsberg Maritime is preparing to demonstrate the latest developments in its broad portfolio of hydrographic, camera, AUV and positioning solutions for marine science and survey applications at OI. In addition to a selection of cutting-edge technology solutions, Kongsberg Maritime will in combination with MMT perform live on-water demonstrations aboard the 16m survey vessel, Seabeam.

Kongsberg Maritime will exhibit a broad portfolio of new and upgraded multibeam and sonar systems. Highlights include the new EM 2040, which as the world's only true wide band high resolution multibeam, is designed to meet all requirements for shallow water mapping and survey inspection.

New imaging sonar products include the 1171 series of Kongsberg Mesotech scanning sonar heads, offered in multi-frequency obstacle avoidance imaging and ultra high scan profiling configurations. GeoAcoustics A KONGSBERG Company will present its latest generation of survey quality dual frequency side scan sonar systems as well as sub-bottom profilers with versatile mounting and application options. GeoSwath Plus, which is available for KONGSBERG's REMUS AUVs in addition to other manufacturers' AUVs, will also be shown in its latest compact version for portable small boat operations.

Kongsberg Seatex, the specialist position reference and satellite positioning division of Kongsberg Maritime will present the 5th generation of its Motion Reference Unit. The MRU 5+ builds on the already cutting-edge technology employed in previous MRU generations and takes roll, pitch and heave measurements closer to perfection than ever before, with documented roll and pitch accuracy of 0.01° RMS. Kongsberg Seatex will also exhibit the new position, attitude and heading sensor, Seapath 330+, which is designed specifically for the hydrographic market and other high precision applications where heading, position, roll, pitch, heave and timing are critical measurements. By combining GPS/GLONASS and inertial data, Seapath 330+ provides robust integrity monitoring and more precise operation, particularly in highly obstructed environments.

Kongsberg Maritime's Camera Group will be showing its latest high performance underwater camera and lighting products, including: the upgraded OE14-502 HDTV camera with direct HDS DI connectivity, the latest OE13-124 BIT low-light navigation camera, the new OE10-102 Pan & Tilt and OE10-103 Rotator units and a number of new general purpose halogen and LED lamps.

For further information, please contact: Christina Fjellstad, Kongsberg Maritime on Tel: +47 3303 2411 or Email: christina.fjellstad@kongsberg.com. www.kongsberg.com

1.f) TRITON GROUP INVESTMENT BRINGS LEADING SUBSEA TECHNOLOGY TO THE RENTAL MARKET FOR THE FIRST TIME

Triton Group has reinforced its commitment to bringing the latest technology to its worldwide client base by becoming the first company to invest in CDL subsea engineering products for its global rental inventory.

The Triton Rental & Services Division via Aberdeen and Singapore based DPS and Houston based ETS, have invested in the new Tiny Optical Gyro System (TOGS), the world's smallest subsea gyrocompass which allows clients operating smaller electric ROV systems to carry out subsea construction, metrology and inspection operations which have traditionally been carried out using workclass ROV system and larger offshore construction vessels.

It is the latest investment by the Triton Group in CDL technology. During 2009 the Group also purchased 12 of CDL's latest Digital Video Telemetry systems. A comprehensive range of CDL's equipment is available to hire from the groups rental offices in Aberdeen, Singapore and Houston and via rental partners in Norway, UAE and Brazil.

For more please information contact email sales@dynamic-positioning.co.uk or visit www.dynamic-positioning.co.uk.

1.g) SEA ANNOUNCES SWATHPLUS SALES FOR SURFACE VESSEL AND UNDERWATER VEHICLE OPERATIONS

SEA has recently been awarded contracts to supply SWATHplus wide swath bathymetric sidescan system for surface vessels and sub-sea vehicles.

UK-based GEMS Survey Ltd has purchased a standard vessel-based system, increasing their pool of SWATHplus systems to five.

Geological Survey of Ireland has purchased SWATHplus-SPLASH for near-shore survey operations for the INFOMAR program. SPLASH is a splash-proof system designed for use on small open vessels and platforms that may be more exposed to the elements.

A reduced size, lightweight variant of SWATHplus, designed for use on underwater vehicles, have been bought by Hafmynd of Iceland to be integrated into the Gavia autonomous underwater vehicle for an undisclosed end user.

Available in a range of frequencies, SWATHplus offers very wide swath coverage for shallow survey operations. For further information please contact Ben Hinett, SEA, Bristol, UK on +44 (0)1373 852219 or email ben.hinett@sea.co.uk.

1.h) ECA GROUP ACQUIRES TRITON IMAGING; GLOBAL SOFTWARE LEADER IN UNDERWATER IMAGING AND MARITIME SECURITY

ECA Group have recently announced it has completed the acquisition of Triton Imaging, Santa Barbara, California a global leader in high-performance software for underwater search and survey.

ECA is specialised in the design, manufacture and commercialization of robotic systems, simulators and control command systems. The Company and its eleven subsidiaries are focused on the defense and civil sectors including advanced technologies and products consisting of robotic systems for the identification and destruction of subsea mines (ECA is a worldwide leader in de-mining robots with 70% of the installed base), autonomous unmanned vehicles, unmanned surface vehicles, land robots, control command systems for naval platforms, infrastructure inspection systems and training simulators for aeronautics, maritime and vehicle simulators.

Military organizations and commercial entities worldwide use Triton Imaging software to acquire, process, visualize, fuse and interpret data from a wide array of underwater sensors for applications including hydrography, oceanography, marine archeology, habitat mapping, small object search, mine countermeasures and maritime security. To learn more about Triton Imaging, please visit the company's web site at www.tritonimaginginc.com

The technical and commercial synergies between the two companies are expected to expand market reach internationally, while providing 'one stop shopping' for integrated search and survey systems to defense and commercial customers internationally. The combined company offers a comprehensive and complementary line of acquisition and processing software for surface vessels and naval robotic systems, including UUVs and USVs. Innovative imaging software will continue to be developed by Triton Imaging to support all major sonars, autonomous and remotely operated vehicles, and offshore geophysical survey instrumentation.

To learn more about the ECA Group, please visit the Company's website at www.ecagroup.com.

1.i) VAN OORD UNDERWATER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS INVOLVE ECHOSCOPE REAL TIME 3D SONAR SYSTEM

CodaOctopus has received an order from Van Oord Dredging and Marine Contractors bv, for the supply of an Echoscope 3D Real Time Sonar System. The order follows Van Oord's purchases of Echoscope systems in 2008, which were deployed successfully on the Ras Laffan LNG port expansion project in Qatar.

The sonar, built on patented Echoscope™ technology, will be incorporated into Van Oord's existing pool of units which are to be used initially for two large scale projects in the Netherlands. In central Amsterdam the Echoscope system is being used to visualise live underwater excavation operations as part of the construction of a new metro station. Situated directly beneath the existing Amsterdam Central Station, the new metro system runs North-South across the city and will carry 200,000 passengers each day. The existing station is built on hundreds of large oak pilings which are to be carefully removed during the construction project. The unique technology of the Echoscope enables the accurate real time 3D visualisation of the pilings during the removal process as well as the dredging of the chamber around them.

In Rotterdam the construction of Maasvlakte 2 is part of the Mainport Development Project where the PUMA consortium, consisting of Koninklijke Boskalis Westminster NV and Van Oord NV, has been contracted to build the first phases. In this project the Echoscope system provides crane operators with critical real time visualisation during the removal of the existing concrete breakwater structure and the construction of replacement walls.

For further information please contact Debra Barker, Marketing Manager on Tel: +44 (0)131 561 1513 or Email: debra.barker@codaoctopus.com. www.codaoctopus.com

1.j) OSIL PRODUCTS TO BE SHOWCASED

OSIL will showcase an exciting range of products at OI.

The Shearwater Data Buoy, designed to be completely adaptable to a wide range of applications, can withstand the harshest of conditions thanks to its robust construction. It is part of OSIL's range of Buoys which provide ideal monitoring platforms for short and long term deployments in ocean, river and coastal applications.

The Rapid Deployment Buoy, designed for use in applications where data needs to be obtained ASAP, for instance where other data collection systems are out of action for short periods of time. This small, lightweight buoy is designed for up to four weeks of constant use and carries a small solar panel with battery backup.

The Box Corer, a reliable double-shovel corer for seabed sampling in biological, chemical and geochemical applications. It provides a large and well preserved sample of sediment and can be operated to full ocean depth.

MiniBAT, a lightweight tow body that has the capability to carry a variety of payloads from custom supplied CTD, SV, Chlorophyll, Turbidity and Dissolved Oxygen packages right through to clients own R&D sensors.

OSIL also represent SonTek, YSI, Guildline, Sonardyne, AML, InterOcean Systems and Zebra-Tech.

For more information about OSIL's extensive range of products and services, please visit the OSIL website at www.osil.co.uk or call +44 (0)23 9248 8240.

1.k) SEA CON® BRANTNER & ASSOCIATES, INC., MOVE TO NEW PREMISES

SEA CON® Brantner & Associates, Inc., of El Cajon, California moved to new premises at the end of December 2009.

The new facility located at 1700 Gillespie Way, El Cajon, has a total area of 34,900 square feet including 15,000 square feet dedicated to Manufacturing and an Engineering & Design area of 12,000 square feet. The new manufacturing plant also has an external secure storage area with easy access for the delivery

and shipment of large connector and cable assemblies. The move to the new facility, coupled with the opening of a further two sales offices is due to continued growth experienced by the SEA CON® Group despite current, difficult economic times.

For further information on SEA CON® please visit: www.seacon-usa.com.

2. EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS

2.a) SEAFLOOR SYSTEMS MULTIBEAM ECHO SOUNDER COURSE, 29TH MARCH – 2ND APRIL 2010, SACRAMENTO, CA, USA

Seafloor Systems Inc. has announced a 5-day, hands-on, multibeam training course. The class includes 28 hours of classroom instruction on components, setup, and processing of multibeam data, and 8 hours of on-the-boat experience running multibeam acquisition systems and navigation programs. Limited space is available for their March 29th - April 2nd class in Sacramento, CA.

Please visit www.seafloorsystems.com for more information.

3. WHO'S ON THE MOVE?

3.a) NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER AT SEA CON® BRANTNER & ASSOCIATES, INC.

SEA CON® Brantner & Associates, Inc., has recently announced the appointment of Dave Pye as Renewable Energy Business Development Manager.

Having worked in the connector industry for over 34 years, Dave brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the SEA CON® Group. Based in the UK, Dave will be working with all SEA CON® divisions closely, focusing on new business opportunities within the global Renewable Energy market.

For further information on SEA CON® please visit: www.seacon-usa.com.

3.b) L-3 KLEIN ASSOCIATES, INC. APPOINTS BILL CHARBONNEAU AS REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

L-3 Communications have announced that its Klein Associates, Inc. division (L-3 Klein) has appointed Bill Charbonneau as Regional Sales Manager for their Side Scan Sonar Systems. Working with other members of the L-3 Klein team, Mr. Charbonneau will be responsible for implementing Klein's strategy to multiply its sales of domestic and international Multi-Beam Side Scan and Bathymetric Sonar Systems.

With over 20 years experience in hydrographic and oceanographic markets, both as a salesman and as a field engineer, Mr. Charbonneau is ideally suited to further expand and enhance L-3 Klein's valued customer network.

Mr. Charbonneau was most recently with Coda Octopus Products in St. Petersburg, Florida as Vice President of Operations responsible for product and revenue growth within the Americas. He earned an ASEE degree from Massasoit Community College.

To learn more about L-3 Communications Klein Associates, Inc., please visit www.L-3Klein.com.

4. JOB POSTINGS

4.a) JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT PARTRAC LTD, UK

Partrac is an independent oceanographic and marine geoscience consultancy-contractor. Their head office is in the centre of Glasgow, with offices also in Thurso. They provide monitoring solutions and consultancy to the offshore renewable industry, ports & dredging companies, the marine aggregate industry, regulators, government, coastal councils and civil engineering consultants.

Due to an expanding workload, Partrac is recruiting for Physical Oceanographers, Marine Scientists and Survey Manger.

PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHERS

They require Physical Oceanographers to conduct coastal oceanographic data acquisition and analysis projects. The responsibilities include client liaison, project planning and logistics, H&S responsibilities, mooring design and deployment, sensor programming and calibration, laboratory procedures, data analysis and report writing. You will be required to conduct offshore work and undertake shore-based survey work.

MARINE SCIENTISTS

You will be involved with marine and estuarine survey logistics, instrument programming and deployment, water quality and sediment sampling, data presentation/interpretation, and reporting. You will gain experience of project management, assisting with proposals, survey design, cost control and client relations. The job requires UK and potentially international travel.

SURVEY MANAGER

A highly motivated and experienced individual is sought to act as Survey Manger. In line with their policy to work innovatively and to the highest technical standards, Partrac Ltd are seeking candidates who have a desire to stretch their personal horizons. Whilst previous experience of leading survey teams is an advantage, they are keen to invite experienced candidates currently in survey roles (Oceanographers, Marine Environmental and Marine Geoscience Scientists, Party Chiefs) wishing to develop their careers further.

You will be a key team player in a rapidly expanding company, and suitable candidates will progress rapidly as the structure of the company evolves to meet the growing demands.

For full details, contact Judy McKay at Partrac jmckay@partrac.com or visit http://www.partrac.com/content/02_news_article.php?nid=107

4.b) SALES MANAGER REQUIRED FOR EXPANSION, UK

VisualSoft Limited, a member of the Triton Group, develops a leading range of digital video, inspection, visualization and simulation products from their offices based in Aberdeen, Houston and Singapore.

In order to maintain the rapid expansion achieved over the past 5 years an experienced Sales Manager is sought to join the technical team to spearhead growth in new products and applications.

The position will be based in the Aberdeen office with the opportunity for extensive travel within Europe and internationally and will report to the Managing Director based in the Aberdeen office. The successful candidate should be able to work in a small company environment alongside a highly motivated technical team as well as being very self-motivated.

The candidate will possess:-

- Proven successful track record in technical sales/services
- Ideally from offshore subsea ROV inspection/survey services
- Good communication skills
- Experience in producing/delivering sales presentations
- Strong background in customer service delivery

Job Responsibilities:-

- General sales and marketing activity
- Joint role in the development and implementation of marketing plans as needed
- Meeting sales targets
- Direct Customer liaison
- Advertising and promotional activity including production of regular press releases
- Detailed knowledge of company products and services
- Coordination of attendance at shows/exhibitions
- Generation of quotes/proposals
- Maintain accurate records of all pricings, sales, and activity reports
- Monthly sales and proposal activity reporting
- Coordination of production of brochures and sales material
- Maintaining close communication with Support and Development teams

To apply please send an up-to-date CV and covering letter including current salary and notice details to paul@visualsoft.ltd.uk or Paul Evans at VisualSoft Ltd, Concorde House, Endeavour Drive, Westhill, Aberdeen AB32 6UF. www.visualsoft.ltd.uk