

This FREE OF CHARGE newsletter is brought to you by the organisers of the Ocean Business event 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 or go to the Oceanbuzz website www.oceanbuzz.org where you can also download past issues as well.

Oceanbuzz Issue No. 136 –9th February 2010

INDEX

1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

- a) New national centre covers marine science from the coast to the deep ocean
- b) Fugro GRL launches DeepTouch
- c) Results from GeoSwath Plus Trials on Remus 100 AUV
- d) Innovative diving bell insulation improves thermal performance and protection
- e) Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) purchases the third SeaBat 7125 sonar system
- f) Hard Anodised Aluminium SubConn® connector now a stock item of MacArtney's
- g) Insight Marine Projects Ltd. awarded ISO 9001:2008
- h) Planet Ocean at Oceanology
- i) Odim to build next generation pan geo subsea acoustic corer 1000tm
- j) AXYS Port SentinelTM Stands Guard for Squamish Terminals
- k) L-3 Klein continues to work on the insertion of its advanced side scan sonar technologies
- l) Canadian Night Vision Company Assists Eco-conscious Sailor Navigate Her Way in the Dark Port Moody, British Columbia

2. EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS

- a) Next SUT London Evening Meeting will be held on Thursday 18 February 2010, London
- b) Side scan sonar training Annapolis, Maryland February 23-25, 2010

3. JOB POSTINGS

- a) SeeByte is looking for Strong Software Engineers, UK
- b) Trittech International Limited seek Software Engineer & Electronic Engineer, UK
- c) UK Dredging has a vacancy for an experienced Hydrographic Surveyor, UK

1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) NEW NATIONAL CENTRE COVERS MARINE SCIENCE FROM THE COAST TO THE DEEP OCEAN

The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) announces the creation of a new, national research organisation that will work in partnership with the UK marine research community to deliver integrated marine science and technology from the coast to the deep ocean.

The National Oceanography Centre (NOC) will be formed by bringing together the NERC Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory (POL) in Liverpool and NERC-managed activity at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton (NOCS) into a single institution. NOC will work in close partnership with the wider marine science community to create the integrated research capability needed to tackle the big environmental issues facing the world. Research priorities will include the oceans' role in climate change, sea level change and the future of the Arctic Ocean.

A major element of the new approach will see the designation of a set of Partners of NOC - comprising research institutes and key university groups - working collaboratively to support world-class strategic research, technology development and training the scientists of the future. Together with a wider group of Associates, these organisations will form the NOC Association, sharing in the delivery of a community developed strategy for marine science.

NOC will have a key role in providing national capability to meet the needs of the whole UK marine research community including Royal Research Ships, deep submersibles and advanced ocean technologies. It will also be home to the global mean sea level data archive, the UK's sea level monitoring system for flood warning and climate change, the national archive of subsea sediment cores and the British Oceanographic Data Centre.

The new approach benefits from greater co-ordination in research developed by the marine community over the past decade, with strong investment from the NERC. For example, the close relationship between the University of Southampton and NERC has led to NOCS being recognised as one of the world's leading oceanographic institutions. NERC investment and the development of close links with the University of Liverpool have helped create a world-class research centre at the POL. In future, the University of Southampton and the University of Liverpool will be hosting partners of the National Oceanography Centre.

Working with other NERC-funded marine centres in Plymouth and Scotland, the Oceans 2025 programme is delivering a major stream of strategic research and the marine community is now highly successful at winning consortium grant funding. NERC with the marine research community has also been working closely with government departments and the Devolved Administrations, most recently through the Marine Science Co-ordination Committee, in the development of its soon to be published strategy which calls for more effective approaches to prioritisation, co-ordination and delivery of marine science.

Building on this excellence, the vision for NOC, in collaboration with its partners, is that by 2015 it will be recognised as the world's leading institution for integrated marine science and technology, able to influence the European and global strategic research agendas.

Full details and FAQs are available about the new National Oceanography Centre contact NERC Press Office, Natural Environment Research Council Tel: 01793 411727 or 411561 or Mike Douglas National Oceanography Centre, Southampton Tel: 023 8059 6001

1.b) FUGRO GRL LAUNCHES DEEPTOUCH

Fugro General Robotics Limited (FGRL), has launched DeepTouch its next-generation, ROV pilot training simulator which can also speed up the evaluation of subsea engineering designs.

DeepTouch brings fully force-modelled physics simulation to subsea and ROV simulators so that any object in the world model both feels and behaves like the real thing. For the first time, DeepTouch brings "touch and feel" interactive simulation tools that give the simulator pilot the same graduated tactile response as if he were actually using a tool, like a manipulator, to move or adjust a subsea component in the field.

Customisation is straightforward and programming skills are not required. DeepTouch allows an engineer to drag and drop objects from the extensive libraries to build subsea worlds containing items such as vessels, pipes, cables and ROVs. DeepTouch can also show electrical and hydraulic circuits in complex subsea machinery, modelling down to great detail within the ROV itself, which makes it quick and easy to change, or even create a new vehicle design. DeepTouch simulation makes it simple to evaluate and change designs prior to manufacture and reduces reliance on expensive and time consuming prototypes. FGRL expects to attract orders for DeepTouch from within the Fugro Group and also from third party subsea services providers.

For more information visit www.fugro.com and www.fugrogrl.com

1.c) RESULTS FROM GEOSWATH PLUS TRIALS ON REMUS 100 AUV

GeoAcoustics Ltd (Great Yarmouth, UK) and Hydroid Inc. (Pocasset, MA), both Kongsberg Maritime companies, have been integrating the GeoSwath Plus wide swath sonar with the Remus 100 man-portable AUV. In late 2009 a 500kHz GeoSwath Plus (GS+) was deployed on a Remus 100 for a survey of Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts, USA. The AUV was also equipped with a full navigation package including a Kearfott T16 Inertial navigation System aided by an RDL Doppler Velocity Log. This configuration allows the man-portable Remus 100 to collect high resolution, high accuracy co-registered bathymetry and side scan survey data.

Two surveys were carried out, 4 lines 500m long for system calibration in Megansett Harbour and 8 lines 700m long for a survey trial in the bay, with the lines running across the shipping channel leading to Cape Cod Canal. Lines were run at 3m constant depth and the bathymetry data was processed in the GS+ software using an 80m swath width. The excellent quality of the navigation and depth mapping was demonstrated in the survey results, with clear definition of a 40cm high 10m period sand wave field in the shipping channel.

This survey trial was the end result of a successful integration project to combine the most widely used interferometric mapping sonar with the most successful small AUV, both systems manufactured by Kongsberg Maritime companies. Through linking these advanced technologies Kongsberg continues to bring the full subsea picture into sharper focus.

Contact details for further information and image requests: Tom Hiller, Advanced Products Manager
GeoAcoustics Ltd., e-mail: tom.hiller@geoacoustics.com

1.d) INNOVATIVE DIVING BELL INSULATION IMPROVES THERMAL PERFORMANCE AND PROTECTION

SUBSEA saturation diving, at depths down to 1000 feet (300 meters) below the surface, tests equipment and men to the limit. To protect divers from the cold in the diving bell, manufacturers Unique LLC turned to Trelleborg Offshore for an innovative syntactic foam insulation solution.

“The engineered Trelleborg syntactic foam insulation, and the company’s 3D modelling design capabilities, provide us with high accuracy thermal and buoyancy properties,” comments Shane Julias, Design Engineer, Unique System LLC. “This enables us to predict the thermal insulation thickness required, and the uplift of the bell for accurate system buoyancy control.

“The performance of previous insulation systems used was more difficult to predict. It was also susceptible to damage and water ingress, which could affect the thermal and buoyancy properties. In contrast, the Trelleborg polyurethane-based foam has a high impact resistance and is totally impervious to water ingress under pressure. It is designed to eliminate any requirement for maintenance, so that life cycle costs are minimized.”

The Unique System diving bell is designed as a submersible decompression chamber for a three man saturation diving team. It transports them from a ship’s live-in hyperbaric chamber down to working depths with typical sea temperatures of between 45°F and 65°F (9°C and 20°C). Typical subsea tasks include pipeline repair, maintenance and inspection, cable maintenance, platform installation and removal.

The Heliox (Helium/ Oxygen) breathing mixture, for the diving bell atmosphere is supplied via an umbilical from the support ship. Heliox has a higher thermal conductivity than air, so good thermal insulation is

essential for the divers' comfort. As dive times in the bell are often 10 to 12 hours, and the divers remain under saturation conditions for up to 30 days, their well being is critical to mission success.

For more information about Trelleborg Offshore thermal insulation solutions for all offshore and subsea markets James.Vultaggio@trelleborg.com

1.e) WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION (WHOI) PURCHASES THE THIRD SEABAT 7125 SONAR SYSTEM

The National Deep Submergence Facility (NDSF) at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) recently purchased a new SeaBat 7125-SV-ROV system to be integrated into the Jason ROV.

More information at: <http://www.reson.com/sw2058.asp>

1.f) HARD ANODISED ALUMINIUM SUBCONN® CONNECTOR NOW A STOCK ITEM OF MACARTNEY'S

In response to the continued success of MacArtney's recent addition to the range of SubConn® connectors, the Hard Anodised SubConn® Connector is now held as a stock item.

Specially treated to resist cathodic de-bonding, the hard anodised aluminium is stronger than other non-conductive materials and can have a longer life.

Since its introduction as a special order connector, the Hard Anodised SubConn® connector has been a success with offshore, military and ocean science customers. In response to their continued popularity, the MacArtney Underwater Technology Group that supplies the connectors have now extended the range to include versions of almost every type of SubConn® in the standard range that includes standard, in-line and micro connectors.

The black hard anodised aluminium SubConn® connector is a non-conductive material. The hard anodising process on connectors helps to prevent cathodic de-bonding, which can occur in certain environments where the potential of the connector is different to other equipment around it, for example an aluminium pressure bottle. The hard anodised aluminium is stronger than other non-conductive materials, including PEEK, and can have a longer lifetime.

For more information please contact Kurt Lund, Sales Manager for Connectors & Cables kl@macartney.com

1.g) INSIGHT MARINE PROJECTS LTD. AWARDED ISO 9001:2008

Cornish based marine survey and inspection specialists Insight Marine Projects Ltd. have been awarded ISO 9001:2008 accreditation for the company's Quality Management System. The company was assessed against a scope, which includes all of its hydrographic and inspection activities and was passed by certifying body LRQA (Lloyds Register).

Owned by Alex and Jane Richards, the company focuses on the renewable energy sector with a particular emphasis on tidal, wave and off-shore wind technologies.

Offering hydrographic services for site investigations, construction support, ports, harbours and precise surface/subsea positioning, Insight Marine Projects is perfectly positioned to play a major role in the development and construction of renewable technologies to support the UK's energy needs.

For more information about Insight Marine Projects please visit www.insight-marine.co.uk

1.h) PLANET OCEAN REPRESENTS SOME OF THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS

Surrey based Planet Ocean Ltd, will be exhibiting at Oi10. Planet Ocean represents some of the worlds leading manufacturers of oceanographic and meteorological instrumentation, many of whom will also be present at the show.

ASL Environmental Sciences, AXYS Technologies, Satlantic, Star-Oddi and WET Labs will all be in attendance and available for one to one discussions with current and prospective users.

Featuring this year will be the new range of beacons from XEOS, and the latest version of the AQUAComm acoustic modem from DSPComm.

Visitors will also be able to find out more about the latest upgrades to the Fluid Imaging Technology FlowCAM imaging flow cytometer which includes increased camera resolution from 1024 x 768 to 1280x 960 pixels. This provides for an improvement in image resolution of up to 50%.

Planet Ocean will also be promoting their low cost BUOYTRACKER-II GPS-Satellite tracking system for surface buoys, TURBIBUOY dredge monitoring system and MINIBUOY hand deployable environmental data buoy. More information visit:- www.planet-ocean.co.uk

1.i) ODIM TO BUILD NEXT GENERATION Pan Geo Subsea ACOUSTIC CORER 1000TM

ODIM Brooke Ocean has been awarded a contract from PanGeo Subsea (www.pangeosubsea.com) for the build of its next generation Acoustic Corer 1000™. ODIM's Engineering Services will build the motion platform and supply mechanical and electrical design for the unit. The new system is scheduled for delivery in time for deployment in Q3 2010 to meet market demand.

A technology development and service delivery company specializing in 3D and 4D subsea acoustic imaging, PanGeo Subsea delivers solutions that mitigate risk and create value for oil and gas, offshore renewable energy and other industries including mining and military applications. Its set of technologies includes the Acoustic Corer™ and Sub-Bottom Imager™, both available to the market.

The Acoustic Corer™ 3D technology images geohazards buried beneath the seafloor such as boulders, cemented layers, shallow gas, abandoned seabed infrastructure and unexploded ordnance. These present a considerable potential risk and cost if encountered during the installation of offshore infrastructure.

For further information, contact Derrick R. Peyton ODIM BROOKE OCEAN dpeyton@brooke-ocean.com www.brooke-ocean.com or Catherina Kennedy PanGeo Subsea ckennedy@pangeosubsea.com www.pangeosubsea.com

1.j) AXYS PORT SENTINEL™ STANDS GUARD FOR SQUAMISH TERMINALS

AXYS Technologies Inc. (AXYS) announced today that its Port Sentinel™ weather monitoring solution has been installed at Squamish Terminals in Squamish, British Columbia. The Port Sentinel™ has been in operation for just over a month and is successfully capturing continuous weather conditions at the terminal, including wind, air temperature, relative humidity and barometric pressure data. This weather data is then transmitted via Automatic Identification System (AIS) radio telemetry to transiting vessels in the area. These vessels can now make more informed decisions about berthing at the Squamish Terminal. Prior to this installation, transiting vessels had to make berthing decisions based on partial or incorrect weather information.

The next phase of the monitoring project involves installing a submerged ocean current profiler alongside the Squamish Terminal pier. The ocean currents data would then be combined with the meteorological weather information and included in the transmitted AIS message to further enhance knowledge of the current conditions at Squamish Terminal.

Squamish Terminals is a deep-water, break-bulk terminal located at the north end of Howe Sound - 32 nautical miles north of the Port of Vancouver. With an intermodal transportation infrastructure (including access to rail, ocean and truck), 2 berths, 3 warehouses, specialized handling equipment and an experienced team, Squamish Terminals efficiently handles cargo bound for North America and around the world. For further information contact Doug Hackett, Vice President, Information Services and Administration at doug_hackett@sqterminals.com visit: <http://www.sqterminals.com/index.htm>

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

1.k) L-3 KLEIN CONTINUES TO WORK ON THE INSERTION OF ITS ADVANCED SIDE SCAN SONAR TECHNOLOGIES

L-3 Klein continues to work on the insertion of its advanced side scan sonar technologies into an ever increasing family of high performance sonar products, the most recent being the System 5900 Multi Beam Side Scan with Swath Bathymetry. The System 5900 has been developed for critical Port and Harbor Security applications as well as MCM and route clearance survey applications. This sonar uses advanced Interferometric signal processing to produce simultaneous estimates of the seabed topography and Side Scan data. The L-3 Klein System 5900 employs a higher number of acoustic channels and a higher frequency to produce superior images and along-track resolution. This is extremely advantageous when performing critical missions involving littoral waters (Ports & Harbors) and Rapid Area Assessments. In addition, due to shallow water requiring a short scope of tow cable, L-3 Klein's proprietary beam steering and image stabilization has been introduced to overcome angular perturbations and artifacts caused by motion.

For more information please visit www.L-3klein.com and www.fidelity-comtech.com

1.l) CANADIAN NIGHT VISION COMPANY ASSISTS ECO-CONSCIOUS SAILOR NAVIGATE HER WAY IN THE DARK PORT MOODY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Experienced sailor and environmental friend Alexia Barrier has just set sail on her Scientific World Solo Tour aptly named "4myplanet". French native, 29 year old Alexia began her voyage in the early afternoon of January 11, 2010 leaving from the Monaco Yacht Club and will take her to Cape Town, South Africa then to Australia, New Zealand, Brazil and New York City, returning to Monaco by mid-May 2010. Her home during this voyage is a 60' Oceanic sailboat specially outfitted as an energy-conserving marine laboratory, with no onboard fuel or gasoline.

The purpose of the trip is to collect water data as part of a global survey on climatic change and to raise much needed awareness regarding the state of the world's oceans. The vessel is powered by wind, an electric engine and solar panels, all eco-friendly low carbon footprint power systems. The thermo-salinograph will collect salinity and temperature information of the oceans. The data collected will then be transmitted to researchers in the USA through the International Seakeepers Society and the French Institute for the sea IFREMER.

In combination with the onboard scientific equipment, a sophisticated Night Navigator™ 1 thermal camera has been installed by Canadian night-vision manufacturer Current Corporation. Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Current Corporation is a global leader in high-resolution night vision systems for the marine industry. Their products are found worldwide on high-speed ferries, yachts, offshore supply and patrol vessels, Coast Guard and other workboats.

For more information please visit: <http://www.currentcorp.com> and www.4myplanet.eu

2. EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS

2.a) NEXT SUT LONDON EVENING MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2010, LONDON

The next SUT London Evening Meeting will be held on Thursday 18 February 2010 and will be on the subject of "Global Offshore Prospects".

For further information or to register for this event please contact Michele Ross, Events Manager SUT michele.ross@sut.org . www.sut.org.uk

2.b) SIDE SCAN SONAR TRAINING ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND FEBRUARY 23-25, 2010

For law enforcement, commercial and government personnel.

The Instructor Vince Capone has over 20 years of commercial/Law Enforcement/Military sonar experience in most every environment with all types of sonars. He is a sonar instructor for SPAWAR and Navy units and assisted Navy SUPSALV in the space shuttle Columbia recovery.

Register early to reserve your place. For more information visit www.BlackLaserLearning.com or call + (410) 349-4080

3. JOB POSTINGS

3.a) SEEBYTE IS LOOKING FOR STRONG SOFTWARE ENGINEERS, UK

SeeByte offers challenging work at the forefront of innovation. Their software products are used worldwide to help our customers become more effective in their operations. Their staff have the opportunity to travel far and wide and become involved in world record breaking projects.

SeeByte is looking for strong software engineers to develop its SeeTrack family of solutions. Excellent software skills are essential as is experience in software design and testing. Candidates should normally hold a degree in Software Engineering or similar discipline with strong software engineering and numerate skills. Practical experience in configuration control systems, signal/image processing, autonomous systems and navigation solutions is highly desirable.

The successful candidate will work as a member of a team of developers in the design, development and testing of software. The team follows industry best practices and standards. The post will be based in Edinburgh, Scotland's capital city. Known as the Athens of the North, Edinburgh has one of the most beautiful cityscapes in the world.

To apply for this role, please send your up to date CV and cover letter, including current salary details and notice period, via e-mail to hr@seebyte.com

3.b) TRITECH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED SEEK SOFTWARE ENGINEER & ELECTRONIC ENGINEER, UK

Tritech International Limited is an award winning company specialising in the production of high performance acoustic sensors, video cameras and mechanical tooling equipment for professional underwater markets. They provide full acoustic survey packages including ROV obstacle avoidance, multi-beam, and profiling sonars; sidescan sonar systems; bathymetric systems; altimeters; sub-bottom profilers.

A vacancy has arisen for a talented Software Engineer within the Company, initially to develop user interfaces for the Company's range of multi-beam imaging sonars. These utilise state of the art FPGA-based DSP technology to produce real-time subsea acoustic images. Typically used by pilots of ROVs, an intuitive interface is essential for ease and safety of operation. Qualifications: Degree (2.1 or better) in Computer Science. Knowledge of Ethernet UDP is important; experience with MFC, CUDA and OpenGL would be useful. A relevant background of software application production in a technical environment, possibly interfacing to digital electronics, would be advantageous. Languages: C, C++.

A vacancy has arisen for an experienced Electronic Engineer to work with the Company's imaging and profiling sonar development team. Working initially with established products for Mine Counter Measures applications, this challenging role combines subsea acoustics with advanced electronic techniques.

Qualifications: Degree (2.1 or better) in Electronics. A wide spectrum of experience is required, ideally combining hardware design and awareness of production processes, with VHDL firmware and embedded C software abilities. Some knowledge of an applications language (i.e. Delphi) would also be an advantage.

The vacancies are full time, permanent, and at the Tritech site in Ulverston. Successful applicants would be eligible to join the Company pension scheme. To apply, please forward your Curriculum Vitae, with a covering letter including your current salary details, to hr@tritechulverston.co.uk or HR Department, Tritech International Limited, Morecambe Road, Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 0BH

Closing Date: 22nd February 2010

3.c) UK DREDGING HAS A VACANCY FOR AN EXPERIENCED HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYOR, UK

UK Dredging has a vacancy for an experienced Hydrographic Surveyor, UK. The job is based at UK Dredging's Cardiff office but will involve travel in support of dredging operations across the UK and Ireland.

European travel may also be required. Duties will include hydrographic and land surveying together with provision of technical support to the dredging fleet and operations department.

Please send cv and covering letter to: Sian Collins, Office Manager, UK Dredging
Queen Alexandra House, Cargo Road , Cardiff CF10 4LY