

# oceanbuzz!

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

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## **1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS**

### **1.a) EB WINS CONTRACT TO SUPPLY COMPLETE J-LAY SYSTEM**

The Engineering Business (EB) has secured its largest-ever contract to supply a complete new J-Lay system for the Saipem FDS (field development ship).

“This contract is enormous in every sense of the world,” says EB’s managing director, Dr Tony Trapp. “It most certainly strengthens our reputation as a leading supplier of pipelay systems. The J-Lay system is being designed for the installation of pipelines in deepwater, and with a maximum dynamic line tension of 1500 tonnes, it will be one of the world’s largest J-Lay towers. The two-year project will make maximum use of our expanded resources together with the talents of the North East of England supply chain.”

EB is responsible for the design, manufacture, assembly, testing and delivery of the tower. The build will take place on Tyneside and Teesside and, following pre-delivery testing, it will be loaded onto a barge and shipped to Rotterdam where it will be commissioned onto the FDS.

“EB is working closely with Saipem to develop innovative solutions and Saipem team members are based at EB for the project duration. Ours is a true partnership as we work together developing optimum solutions to the challenges facing us. “ For further information go to <http://www.engb.com>

### **1.b) LOUGHBOROUGH STUDENT WINS BEST MARITIME TECHNOLOGY STUDENT AWARD**

Ewan Porteous (23) of the University of Loughborough is the 2007 winner of The Lloyd's Register Educational Trust Award for the Best Maritime Technology Student. The Award, one of the 2007 Science, Engineering & Technology (SET) Student of the Year Awards, was judged by the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST), the Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA) and the Lloyd's Register Educational Trust.

Ewan whose research project was on ‘Wave-Like Propulsion of Small Marine Craft’ was up against strong competition, beating Chris Plant whose topic was ‘Sub-Sea Electrical Connection System for Offshore Renewables’ from Lancaster University; and Philip Siddorn with his ‘Wave Energy Absorption By Arrays of Oscillating Bodies’ from the University of Oxford. Further information on SET and the Awards is available at [www.setawards.org](http://www.setawards.org); and information on IMarEST is at [www.imarest.org](http://www.imarest.org).

### **1.c) EDGETECH INTRODUCES NEW SEARCH & RECOVERY SIDE SCAN SONAR SYSTEM**

EdgeTech has just recently introduced their new 4125-P Portable Search & Recovery Side Scan System. The 4125-P is a digital single or dual frequency 400/1250 kHz system that produces very high resolution imagery at an affordable price. One-person deployable and rugged, the 4125-P sets a standard for high resolution sonar images. Designed with Search and Recovery and Harbor Security in mind, the system can quickly be deployed within minutes from a very small boat and only needs a 12-24 VDC power source. The 4125-P comes standard with a lightweight towfish in a rugged portable carrying case, portable waterproof topside processor with laptop computer and 50 meters of tow cable. For pricing information or to request sample data from the 4125-P please send an email to [marine@edgetech.com](mailto:marine@edgetech.com).

### **1.d) NATIONAL PARK CONDUCTS UNDERWATER RESEARCH**

The Virgin Islands National Park in St. John has purchased a magnetometer and towed camera from JW Fishers to assist with their marine research. In 1962 Congress significantly expanded the boundaries of the park to include more than five thousand acres of underwater terrain. The park service is very concerned about the environmental impact of overfishing, encroachment of exotic marine plants, and sediment runoff. A field station has been established, headquartered at the Biosphere Reserve Center in the national park on St. John, to investigate changes in the marine ecosystem and to determine their cause. One focus of the research is determining the impact of trap fishing on reef fisheries in VI National Park and Buck Island Reef National Monument. The National Marine Fisheries Service has identified traps as one of the five types of fishing gear with the highest potential for impacting essential fish habitat. One problem is the environmental damage caused by traps being routinely dropped on, and removed, from the reefs.

Another problem is the devastating effect on fish populations when traps are abandoned or lost. Fisheries regulations require that traps have a surface marker buoy, but lines can be accidentally severed by boat propellers, break in storms, or get cut by competing fishermen. These unattended traps keep capturing and killing fish. There is also the problem of illegal traps that are set with no marker buoy.

Researchers will use the magnetometer, a super sensitive metal detector, to find the traps which are typically constructed of steel pipes and wire mesh. Abandoned and illegal traps can be quickly located and removed. Using the towed camera researchers can view the reef structure and see the condition of the marine habitat and it's residents. Large stretches of ocean bottom can be surveyed in a short time, rather than having divers swim the entire area. The towed camera will also allow scientists to continually monitor other environmental forces affecting the reef, such as sediment runoff and the impact of non-native species. For more information on Virgin Islands National Park go to [www.nps.gov/viis](http://www.nps.gov/viis). For more information on Fishers complete line of underwater search equipment go to [www.jwfishers.com](http://www.jwfishers.com).

### **1.e) INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIES INC. (III) SELLS ODOM ES 3 SHALLOW WATER MULTIBEAM ECHOSOUNDER TO US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

Included in the package is a TSS DMS 25 Dynamic Motion Sensor. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> purchase by the Corps, as it immediately follows the Philadelphia District acquisition of the ES 3. This completely new hydrographic multibeam system from Odom Hydrographic Systems almost defines the term, Innovation.

The new ES 3 is aimed squarely at the user who previously felt that multibeam technology was beyond their means due either to high costs or perceived complexity. Affordability previously meant too many compromises on performance and performance always carried a high price tag. With the introduction of the ES 3, both performance and return on investment are served in one affordable and easy to use package!

Chic Ransone, President of III, believes that the ES 3 has opened up the Multibeam data collection field to those government agencies working in the interior of the country as well as the small boat operator with limited assets. The system can be adapted for use on ROVs , Towed Vehicles and Unmanned Underwater Vehicles (UUVs). For further information contact +1 410-349-4080, or go to [www.internationalindustries.net](http://www.internationalindustries.net)

### **1.f) WATCHKEEPER™ STANDS GUARD OVER CARIBBEAN RESORT DEVELOPMENT**

AXYS has won a contract for the supply of a WatchKeeper™ data collection buoy to a large Caribbean resort development company. During the resort construction phase the WatchKeeper™ will provide crucial wave and wind data, allowing local construction managers to make timely vessel traffic management decisions. Once the resort is up and running the buoy is expected provide real time weather data to local mariners and resort personnel. A key feature of this buoy is it's AIS (Automatic Identification System) capability. The buoy can send its location and associated data, such as wave height or wind speed, at set intervals to any transiting vessel within a pre-defined radius. This will greatly enhance the safety for all stakeholders in the region.

The 1.7m diameter WatchKeeper™ was chosen for this application because of its exceptional station keeping, long life expectancy and system expansion capabilities. The solar-powered WatchKeeper™ can be outfitted with a variety of water quality and meteorological sensors. Data from the sensors is collected by AXYS' proprietary WatchMan™ data acquisition system.

AXYS Field Service Specialists will depart for the Caribbean later this fall to train resort staff and to help assemble and commission the buoy for operation. Terms of the sale are confidential and have not been provided. For further information please visit [www.axystechnologies.com](http://www.axystechnologies.com) or contact AXYS at: [info@axystechnologies.com](mailto:info@axystechnologies.com)

### **1.g) AML COMPOSITE SV SENSOR AVAILABLE TO SMART USERS**

The latest addition to Applied Microsystems' SMART SV range provides it's customers with lower servicing costs and longer calibration periods than any previous SV sensor.

The new composite SV sensor can now be fitted to the existing Smart Sensor range combining radical advances in 'time-of-flight' sound velocity measurement with hi-tech composite sensor materials, making it the obvious choice for any SMART users who want to get the most out of their instrument.

The SMART SV sensor is a high-tech, composite sound velocity sensor which can also be adapted to include an AML temperature and/or pressure sensor. With the composite SV sensor, customers still receive the same SMART housing and the same SMART data output as with the current sensors, so there is no need for expensive system modifications. The accuracies of the SMART SV also remain unchanged at SV +/-0.05 m/s, T +/- 0.05°C and Pressure +/-0.05% FS.

The new composite SV sensor is smaller than the original Invar SV sensor, its size means it can be easily attached to the smallest AUV, ROV or tow body. As the new SV does not have any metal parts the need for sacrificial zinc anodes is eliminated, avoiding complex replenishments and cutting down the long term costs. AML are represented by OSIL in the UK, for further information please visit [www.osil.co.uk](http://www.osil.co.uk)

## **2. EVENTS, TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION**

### **2.a) LAST FEW PLACES ON THE MARINE MEASUREMENT FORUM, 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2007, BRIGHTON**

There are a few more places available at the next Marine Measurement Forum, taking place at the Brighton Metropole in Brighton on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007. For further information or to book your place, contact [cb@intelligentexhibitions.com](mailto:cb@intelligentexhibitions.com)

### **2.b) SUBSEA AWARENESS COURSE, 19TH – 23RD NOVEMBER 2007, MALAYSIA**

Taking place at Crown Plaza Mutiara, Jalan Sultan Ismail, KL, this four and half day Course has been designed to be suitable for contractors, engineers, operators and those new to the offshore industry, those transferring from other disciplines within the industry and those who have worked in subsea previously but would benefit from a refresher course and exposure to the latest technology. Whilst most of the course will be presented in a 'classroom' environment, the sessions will be interactive, with the opportunity to ask questions and discuss what has been learnt.

To register, either e-mail the information required on the registration form to [J.Bremner@sut.org](mailto:J.Bremner@sut.org) or fax the completed form to Joyce Bremner on 61 8 9204 3826 Tel. 61 (0) 403 185 226

### **2.c) LEAST SQUARES ADJUSTMENT FOR OFFSHORE SURVEY, NOVEMBER 2007, JANUARY 2008**

Newcastle University in association with Fugro are pleased to offer two opportunities to attend a three day intermediate/ advanced course providing geomatics professionals with an opportunity to strengthen their Least Squares and Statistical Analysis skills. The course will have particular value for those working in the fields of offshore and land surveying, together with other high precision positioning applications (including GPS). Software programmers in related fields will also find the course of benefit.

To be hosted at Newcastle University, the course will be presented by Newcastle University Lecturing/Research staff, Dr Stuart Edwards (Senior Lecturer in Geomatics) and Dr Matt King (NERC Research Fellow in Geodesy). The course comprises a series of lectures presenting key concepts and theory which are underpinned with in-depth hands-on practical examples. The three day course costs £675 per person and includes all course materials, lunches and refreshments. For further information go to <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/cegs.cpd/cpd/lsadjust.php>

### **2.d) HIGH RESOLUTION SURVEYS IN SHALLOW WATER CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 21-24, 2008, USA**

The Fifth International Conference on High-Resolution Surveys in Shallow Water will be hosted by the University of New Hampshire's Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping and the NOAA/ UNH Joint Hydrographic Center CCOM/JHC in Portsmouth, New Hampshire October 21-24, 2008. Visit <http://shallowsurvey2008.org> for more information.

### 3. JOB POSTINGS

#### 3.a) RENTAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS, KONGSBERG MARITIME LTD, UK

Kongsberg Maritime Ltd in Aberdeen have a current requirement for Support Engineers whose main task will be the preparation and maintenance of the full range of Kongsberg rental equipment. In addition they will be expected to provide technical support to customers and respond to sales enquiries with the provision of quotations. The successful candidates would be qualified to a minimum of HNC/HND level in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, have at least one years experience with troubleshooting and maintenance of electronic equipment and would show a high degree of attention to detail. Occasional travel both onshore and offshore may be required. An excellent salary and benefits package is provided. To find out more about the position or to apply please email [km.support.aberdeen@kongsberg.com](mailto:km.support.aberdeen@kongsberg.com)

#### 3.b) SOFTWARE/OCEAN ENGINEER, MCLANE RESEARCH LABORATORIES, INC. USA

McLane designs, manufactures, and sells reliable, autonomous, time-series sampling instruments for physical and biogeochemical ocean research and environmental monitoring. This position is for a creative, self-motivated, experienced Software Engineer who will have responsibilities in all facets of embedded software code design, development, testing, integration, documentation, and troubleshooting. Specific position qualifications and experience for the ideal candidate should include; MS or BS in Computer Science or Electrical Engineering and a minimum of 3 years experience in a software design engineering environment; Programming experience in C, C++, and embedded systems; Collaborate with hardware engineers and customers to specify and develop product requirements; Practical application experience with oceanographic sensors and systems; Strong analytical, problem solving, and time management skills; Strong written and verbal communication skills. Please send your resume including education, work experience, work related references, and your salary history/requirements to the address below, or via email to [mclane@mclanelabs.com](mailto:mclane@mclanelabs.com)

#### 3.c) HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYOR, PLA, UK - CLOSING DATE 17 OCTOBER 2007

The P.L.A. is a self-financing Public Trust, with responsibility for administering the UK's premier port, maintaining the safety of navigation throughout its limits, and for the conservancy of 150 km. of the tidal River Thames. This post is based within their Hydrographic Department and involves all facets of Nautical Charting, from data collection on their three vessels using multibeam sonar, through to final chart production using the latest GIS techniques. This post offers considerable potential for someone seeking to consolidate existing professional experience in this area of Hydrographic Surveying.

They are looking for someone with a recognised degree in hydrographic surveying, although consideration will be given to candidates with other relevant surveying degrees and experience using standard industry survey equipment and software packages particularly with multibeam systems. Previous port or Inshore surveying experience and a working knowledge of Hypack and Fledermaus software systems would also be an advantage. For an informal chat about the position, please contact John Pinder on 01474 562207 or visit their website on [www.portoflondon.co.uk/hydrohomepage](http://www.portoflondon.co.uk/hydrohomepage) for further information. Please telephone 01474 562292 (24hr answer phone) for an application pack. Alternatively, you can download an application form from our website at [www.portoflondon.co.uk](http://www.portoflondon.co.uk)

### 4...AND FINALLY

#### 4.a) THE OCEANBUZZ TEAM ATTEND OCEANS IN VANCOUVER

The Oceanbuzz team enjoyed their week at Oceans in Vancouver, Canada last week and generated a lot of interest in Ocean Business 2009. The show seemed well attended with some interesting and lively conference sessions taking place. Sadly the weather wasn't the best, but Vancouver's nightlife more than made up for it!!