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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) NEW SONARDYNE SENTINEL DIVER DETECTION SONAR SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES US NAVY TRIALS

The new Sentinel Diver Detection System, from Sonardyne International, successfully completed a four-day series of intensive trials at the US Naval Underwater Warfare Center, Newport, Rhode Island during October. Although full details of the tests cannot be disclosed, the US Navy subjected the system to a variety of threat scenarios. The Sentinel not only met all requirements of the tests, but also exceeded expectations during the challenging appraisal.

Rob Balloch, strategic development director for Sonardyne said; "For a product such as Sentinel, the US Naval Underwater Warfare Centre is the ultimate test bed. Exceeding the US Navy's requirements for diver detection is the finest accolade. Testing doesn't get any tougher than that. We believe that we can now offer Sentinel confident that our product will meet the expectations of anyone needing a high performance underwater intruder detection system at a realistic price. This could be for naval, commercial or private vessels, offshore and coastal installations or complete harbours. Intruder detection on land and above the water has already reached a high level of sophistication. We believe that by effectively monitoring the underwater domain, Sentinel can now close the gap that currently persists in so many security perimeters."

Sentinel is a third generation sonar system designed specifically for underwater security. Compact and easily deployed, the Sentinel head is only 30cm in diameter, 40cm high and weighs less than 65lb. The 360 deg sonar can operate as a stand-alone portable system or has been designed to allow multiple heads to be networked together to provide a wide area domain awareness.

The new system features an advanced automatic target detection, classification and tracking capability that removes the need for continuous manual operation. Threat warnings can be communicated by the system's command and control facility, distributed to a third party integrated system or distributed over an Ethernet to a host command and control centre anywhere in the world. Because of its low weight, compact size and system simplicity, it was demonstrated that it can be deployed and become operational within an hour of arriving on site. This ease of set-up and configuration has been a key factor in the several successful demonstrations performed to-date.

The first operational deployments of Sentinel are scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2008. Sonardyne now believes that the Sentinel specification is the first cost-effective solution that meets the growing need for underwater security in terms of size, performance and cost.

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Tel: +44 (0) 1252 872288 or go to www.sonardyne.co.uk

1.b) FLOWQUEST SYSTEMS NOW PERFORM DISCHARGE MEASUREMENT

LinkQuest's FlowQuest acoustic current profilers now have the Discharge Measurement function which can be used to measure the discharge in rivers, estuaries, natural streams and constructed channels. This function comes in the form of an option for the FlowQuest 600 and 1000 acoustic current profilers.

For the discharge measurement application, the standard FlowQuest 600 or 1000 acoustic current profiler is steadily deployed on a moving vessel such as a catamaran, a small floating platform or a small boat with the transducer pointing downward. The profiler measures the water velocities, the ship's velocities, the depth and other related information required for discharge measurement by doing current ensemble and bottom tracking pings alternatively. Advanced algorithms are utilized to calculate the sectional discharge and the total discharge in real-time. The sectional discharge, total discharge, the ship's trace, the bottom depth and related velocities are displayed in the FlowQuest software. The FlowQuest Discharge Measurement software can also be used for user friendly off-line analysis. The user can select different

measurement starting and ending points and different models to revise and optimize the discharge calculation results. With very fast ping rate, automatically adjusted cell size and no ambiguity error, the Discharge Measurement function in the FlowQuest profilers is capable of more accurately measuring both normal and unsteady (or tidally affected) flow. It is also dramatically faster than conventional discharge measurement systems and has improved accuracy. For more information, please visit www.link-quest.com or contact the company at sales@link-quest.com

1.c) GEMS DELIVER ON-LINE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

GEMS recently completed a five month environmental compliance monitoring programme in Fos-sur-Mer on the South coast of France. Two surface buoys were deployed to monitor sediment plume dispersal during dredging operations, and offer protection for the commercially sensitive oyster beds in the vicinity. Each buoy was interfaced to a subsea YSI-6600 sonde fitted with turbidity, conductivity, temperature and pressure sensors. Data were relayed to GEMS UK-based ARTEMeS server at ten minute intervals via a GSM modem programmed with GEMS proprietary firmware.

The systems were designed, built and deployed within one week of order using the joint expertise of GEMS Survey and OSIL (www.osil.co.uk) The client was able to log on and browse up to the minute data and view historic trends using ARTEMeS' flexible user interface. When pre-defined thresholds were exceeded, the client project team were notified directly by SMS message to their mobile telephones, enabling them to make informed decisions about the ongoing dredging operation.

The ARTEMeS system is not restricted to buoy-mounted systems, and can be used to deliver remotely measured metocean data to the client's desktop from almost anywhere in the world where GSM, GPRS or satellite communications are available. GEMS are also running a second system providing on-line meteorological data from a remote location in Nigeria. This highly adaptable service represents a major new opportunity to further enhance GEMS Group's capabilities and meet their clients demands for high quality, up to the minute data, delivered by a convenient and reliable method. For further information on on-line monitoring services please contact Richard Davies richard.davies@gems-group.com For general enquires about GEMS capabilities, please contact Mark Abcouwer mark.abcouwer@gems-group.com

1.d) OCEANTOOLS ANNOUNCES SIGNIFICANT ORDER FOR OCEANTRAK LOST ROV/AUV TRACKING SYSTEMS

Aberdeen based OceanTools were recently awarded a major order for a further 20 of their OceanTRAK lost ROV/AUV tracking systems by Sonsub, a division of Saipem. The OceanTRAK is a battery powered integrated GPS receiver and INMARSAT-D transceiver unit with a depth rating of 3000m as standard.

Should an ROV become detached from its umbilical, the OceanTRAK system will wait until the vehicle reaches the surface and will then acquire the latitude and longitude of the lost asset. This positional data will be immediately transmitted to notify the relieved owner via the OceanTools website or via an SMS text message allowing rapid recovery.

For further information contact Kevin Parker OceanTools Ltd kevin@oceantools.eu or go to www.oceantools.eu or call + 44 1224 709606.

2. EVENTS, TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION

2.a) 5 DAY MULTIBEAM OPERATOR TRAINING COURSE, 3 TO 7 MARCH 2008, USA

MosaicHydro is pleased to announce a 5-day Multibeam Operator Training Course offered in Sidney, BC from 3 to 7 March 2008 at a cost of \$US 3200 per student. The course intended for Surveyors new to Multibeam Echosounder Surveys and will include 27+ hours of in class training and 8 hours on a multibeam survey vessel.

Please see www.mosaichydro.com for complete course details and registration instructions. Space is limited to 9 participants and the course is now half full, so register soon.

2.b) THE HYDROGRAPHIC SOCIETY UK - SOUTHERN REGION MEETING, 12TH DECEMBER, UK

The UK Hydrographic Society will be welcoming an eminent speaker their next meeting on 12th December in Southampton. Dr Wyn Williams CB, BSc, PhD, CMarEng, CPhys, FInsMarEST, FInstP FRAeS will give a presentation entitled 'IMarEST and Hydrography'. Wyn is the current President of the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) and a former Chief Executive of the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office and UK National Hydrographer, the first civilian to hold this role. Dr Williams is also Chief Executive of Admiralty Holdings Ltd (a government-owned company which he created as the commercial outlet for the UKHO), and Chairman of Admiralty Coastal Surveys AB, a joint venture company he created with Swedish and Norwegian partners, and is soon to take up Chairmanship of a German maritime software company.

This event, which begins at 19:30 on the historic steamship "Shieldhall", will provide members and guests with a unique opportunity to be brought up-to-date with the latest developments in the world of Hydrography as seen through the eyes of a speaker with an international reputation. The meeting will be of particular interest to marine scientists from all disciplines and of all ages, who are considering following the path to chartered status. THSUK welcomes guests to their meetings free of charge. News and updates about all our meetings can be found on <http://www.ths.org.uk/content.asp?page=9> where full details of how to find the venue in Southampton can also be downloaded

2.c) INTERNATIONAL LIDAR MAPPING FORUM, 21-22 FEBRUARY 2008, USA

This event will be of interest to anyone who has mapping requirements and needs to learn more about LiDAR technology. Despite the increased usage of LiDAR, there is still a low awareness of the applications and benefits of the technology with many customers finding it difficult to differentiate between the various merits and suitability of LiDAR when compared with more traditional mapping tools.

This will be the 8th ILMF event to be held and for the first time there will be a Basics to Lidar Workshop Series which consists of 10 workshops spread of two days. Delegates will be able to find out what LiDAR is, how it works, what the applications are, the cost benefits and how it compares with other mapping technologies. To download the program go to <http://www.lidarmap.org/workshops>

In addition to the introductory workshops there is also an exhibition alongside with the world's leading LiDAR manufacturers, operators and service providers in attendance. For a full list of the exhibiting companies visit <http://www.lidarmap.org/exhibitorlist/>

For those that already have a basic knowledge of LiDAR but who want to be kept up-to-date with the latest developments and commercial applications, the two day conference consisting of presentations from leading experts will be the one focused event catering to LiDAR professionals. The full conference program can be viewed at <http://www.lidarmap.org/ilmf2008>

Registration is now open at <http://www.lidarmap.org/register> . Delegates can register to attend the whole event for \$399 or for just for one day for \$239. Please note that these are the Early Bird Discount rates that end on December 15, 2007. For more information contact versha.carter@lidarmap.org