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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) SEDIMENTATION LEVELS MONITORED IN YELLOW RIVER DAM USING A GEOSWATH SONAR

The sediment levels in the Xiaolangdi dam (Yellow River, China) are being monitored using a GeoSwath wide swath bathymetry sonar manufactured by GeoAcoustics Ltd (Great Yarmouth, UK).

The Yellow River (*Huang He* in Chinese) runs for over 5,400km. After leaving Inner Mongolia it passes through the extensive Loess Plateau, picking up an annual silt load of up to 3.91 billion tonnes. This makes it the most sediment-laden river in the world. The Xiaolangdi Dam is located 40km north of the ancient city of Luoyang (Henan Province) at the lower end of the middle reaches of the river. Xiaolangdi is a multi-purpose project for flood prevention, ice control, fresh water supply and hydroelectric power. It supplies 5.1 billion kWh of electricity a year, enough to support several local cities. The project is the largest of its kind on the Yellow River, and in China is second only to the Three Gorges project on the Yangtze.

The GeoSwath system is one of many supplied and supported in China by the local GeoAcoustics agent, China-ORES Ltd. of Qingdao. For further information contact Tom Hiller, E: tom.hiller@geoacoustics.com or go to W: www.geoacoustics.com

1.b) HAMBURG PORT AUTHORITY SELECTS TRIMBLE FOR USE ON THEIR SURVEY VESSELS POWERFUL NEW GPS RECEIVERS CONVINCED

Trimble have been selected by the Hamburg Port Authority to supply four receivers of its new generation of GPS and GLONASS receivers. The Trimble SPS851 Modular GPS and GLONASS Receivers are ideal for mobile, semi-permanent and permanent base station setups as well as for vehicle, vessel or pole-mounted rover applications. By integrating the radio and receiver in a single housing, the valuable components can be protected from the elements and theft by securing them inside a site trailer, vehicle or carrying case, while only the antennas are left outside. Antennas can be mounted high and away from obstructions to allow a clearer, less noisy GPS signal, as well as maximizing radio coverage. They offer a range of GPS positioning techniques delivering position accuracies from centimeters to sub-meter and the Autobase function allows the user set up the receiver as a base station with a single button push. The Trimble Partner for the Hamburger client is S+H Systemtechnik GmbH, experienced distributor for the Marine business, who opened a new office in Hamburg in June 2007. Dieter Seefeldt, head of geographic and hydrographic surveying department of Hamburg Port Authority commented "We are happy that Trimble decided to make a come back in to the marine business with these new receivers and trust on superior quality and technology". For further information visit the Trimble web site at www.trimble.com.

1.c) VERIPOS EXTENDS AUSTRALASIAN & ASIAN GNSS NETWORKS

Satellite positioning provider Veripos has extended coverage of the Australasian region of its global multi-source GNSS precise positioning service with establishment of a new reference station at Dunedin, New Zealand. Sited in response to increased development of oil and gas basins in the area, the station supplements a similar land-based reference facility already operational at New Plymouth, New Zealand, by providing additional coverage and redundancy for offshore users.

Comparable reference facilities have also been added to the Veripos South East Asian network, with installation of a new station at Manila in the Philippines. Meanwhile, its Asian network has been further enhanced with the addition of a Differential GLONASS service in India. Existing reference stations in Chennai and Mumbai have been activated to provide GLONASS Type 31 and 32 corrections via dual redundant GPS/GLONASS receivers. For further information go to www.veripos.com

1.d) OFFSHORE WIND CAPEX 2008-2012 SOURCE: THE WORLD OFFSHORE WIND REPORT - DOUGLAS-WESTWOOD

Douglas Westwood reports that wind will see \$16 billion of capital expenditure in the coming five year period as 4.5 GW of new capacity is installed. With just over 1.1 GW of capacity currently installed, this

represents significant market growth and leads to an annual capital expenditure of over \$5.2 billion by 2012.

In comparison to the previous five year period, development and construction costs will rise by 51% for the period to 2012. Whilst this is impacting on some projects energy majors are pushing forward large projects through balance-sheet financing determined to gain early market share. In common with other reports of Douglas-Westwood's acclaimed series, The World Offshore Wind Report is aimed at executive readers. The report does not assume detailed technical knowledge of the subject. For further information go to www.dw-1.com

1.e) INTERNATIONAL OCEAN SYSTEMS PREVIEWS OI08 IN THEIR FEBRUARY ISSUE

The March/April issue of International Ocean Systems magazine, as well as featuring Oceanographic Instrumentation and Environmental Monitoring, will also preview Oi08 at London Excel. This issue is published during the third week of February. To book an advertisement in this issue, please contact Astrid Powell (astrid@divermag.co.uk) before 31 January. To be included in the editorial preview, please let Daniel Johnson (daniel@divermag.co.uk) have details of what you are showing by 15 January .

1.f) OCEANS ORGANISER ANNOUNCES HIS SECOND BOOK HAS BEEN PUBLISHED

Bob Wernli, long time organiser of Oceans, has announced that his new techno-thriller novel, Sunrise Cartel, (the sequel to Second Sunrise) is now published. To order your own personalised copy, just email Bob rwernli@san.rr.com or go to www.authorhouse.com for further information.

1.g) MEXICO MOVE FOR ROTECH SUBSEA

Rotech Subsea is opening a new base in Mexico to cope with a swelling tide of business in the region. The company, which operates a unique and patented range of "T" tools, has enjoyed growing business in the region performing 30 projects in the past three years, worth around \$15million. And with the success of its Houston headquarters, opened in June 2006, the company realised establishing a formal Mexican base was the next step in providing the best service to their new and returning clients.

Rotech Subsea has had a presence in the region for almost six years, with a dedicated Mexican representative. But establishing a working base with a team of employees, a yard and tools permanently stationed in Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche, will allow Rotech Subsea to potentially mobilize clients within 24 hours. Previously Mexican projects were managed from Houston. Equipment spent roughly 10 days each way on trucks to and from the base. For further information on Rotech Subsea, http://www.rotech.co.uk/www/subsea/sub_index.htm

1.h) OFFICIAL OPENING OF OSIL NEW OFFICES

Environmental instruments and systems company OSIL (Ocean Scientific International Ltd.), officially opened their new premises, Culkin House, in December. The ceremony took place at the company's new offices in Havant, Hampshire, and was performed in the presence of guest of honour Dr. Fred Culkin, after whom the building is named.

Dr. Culkin has a long and prestigious career in marine science, particularly in the field of seawater chemistry. He graduated from London University in 1952 and received his PhD in 1960 from the University of Liverpool for research on trace elements in seawater. His research interests included physical properties and chemistry of seawater, organic chemistry of marine organisms and salinity standards. From 1975 until 1989 he was the Director of the Standard Seawater Service and was a member of the Joint Panel of Oceanographic Tables and Standards (JPOTS). For further information please visit www.osil.co.uk

1.i) GAVIA AUV FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF DELEWARE

Hafmynd Ehf and Symphotic TII are pleased to announce the sale of a Gavia AUV to the University of Delaware to be operated by the College of Marine and Earth Studies, Coastal Sediments Hydrodynamics and Engineering Lab (CSHEL) for research into underwater navigation, hydrographic surveying, seafloor morphology, water quality, benthic habitat monitoring, and sediment transport processes.

The Gavia that was selected by University of Delaware / CSHEL is configured with a highly accurate DVL INS system, 500 kHz GeoSwath Swath Bathymetry Sonar, side scan sonar, camera, turbidity and O2 sensors. The modular design of the Gavia, both mechanical and software, will also allow CSHEL to develop user interchangeable custom payload modules and custom applications for their Gavia vehicle.

The University of Delaware's Gavia will be christened DORA, or the Delaware Oceanographic Research AUV and all of us at Hafmynd certainly hope she will be as fastidious of an explorer as her popular namesake, and from the sound of the operations that CSHEL has planned with operations in Bonaire in January 2008 and subsequent efforts in the Delaware Bay, inland waterways, and in various seafloor mapping and environmental monitoring initiatives domestically and around the world. This sale to the University of Delaware also marks an exciting milestone with the first sale of a Gavia mounting the powerful 500 kHz GeoSwath plus from GeoAcoustics Ltd, which gives the Gavia AUV unrivaled bathymetric capability in a small man portable package. For further information contact Hafmynd: Arnar Steingrimsson, arnar@gavia.is or go to www.gavia.is

2. PRODUCT LAUNCH

2.a) C & C INTRODUCES THE C-NAV1010 GPS RECEIVER

The C-Nav GPS Division of C & C Technologies, Inc. announces the release of the C-Nav1010, a new GPS receiver that uses the C-Nav Global Satellite GPS Correction Service.

This tightly integrated package is purpose-built to maximize precision and stability in noisy and hostile environments such as on offshore vessels and close to large structures. C-Nav1010's access to multiple communication satellites reduces outages when operating in these challenging situations.

A wide range of software and QC tools including C-NaviGator, C-Monitor and C-Setup supports the C-Nav1010. More information about C-Nav quality positioning solutions visit www.CnavGPS.com, call C-Nav Sales at +1 337-210-0000, or send email to cnav@cctechol.com.

2.b) EDGETECH INTRODUCES NEW SIDE SCAN SONAR SYSTEM FOR HIGH DEFINITION ANALYSIS OF VERY SMALL TARGETS

In response to customer requests and military requirements, EdgeTech has designed a new side scan sonar system that is capable of providing very high resolution imagery at increased ranges and tow speeds. The new 4700-DFX is a dual frequency 300/600 kHz system that combines EdgeTech's Multi-Pulse technology (for high tow speed capability) with dynamically focused transducers, which provide high resolution imagery at increased ranges; as much as 20 – 30% over conventional technology side scan systems. The result is an affordable state-of-the-art sonar system.

Using dynamically focused transducers the 4700-DFX will provide very high resolution imagery at a range of 250 meters/side at 300 kHz and 125 meters/side at 600 kHz. While operating in Multi-Pulse mode at the 600 kHz frequency the system can be towed at speeds of up to 14 knots while still maintaining 100% coverage. The combination of these factors makes the 4700-DFX an ideal tool for Mine Countermeasure (MCM) surveys. The 4700-DFX is available for towed, AUV, ROV or UUV platforms. For more information please visit www.edgetech.com

2.c) A MORE POWERFUL AND DEEPER SWIMMING PANTHER ROV

Saab Seaeye has launched the Panther XT, a more powerful, deeper swimming version of their successful Panther Plus ROV with a much greater tooling capability. It comes as world sales of the Panther range of

electric work-class ROVs exceed 30 vehicles and extends the operational boundaries of the existing Panther models.

ROV operators will benefit from new technology that has doubled thruster power and significantly increased performance. This comes through innovative design by Saab Seaeye engineers that has increased the thruster motor voltage from 250v to 500v. The result is a cut in the number of thrusters on board from ten on the Panther Plus to six on the Panther XT. This has freed valuable space within the vehicle for additional tooling and sensors without the need for an underslung skid – although one could be added for specialist operations, if needed. Greater power also means more powerful tooling can be used and heavier items handled, along with faster ascent and descent to deeper work sites.

Typically the Seaeye Panther XT weighs less than a quarter of its hydraulic work-class ROV equivalent; takes about a third of the deck space and needs fewer crew. It is easier to mobilise, maintain and repair, and has a 'plug-and-go' simplicity of operation. Thruster innovation lies behind the success of this class of vehicle with Seaeye being the first to create a reliable brushless DC thruster with a revolutionary design that introduced drive electronics with velocity feedback for precise and rapid control in both directions.

The new Seaeye Panther XT with its increased depth rating from 1000 to 1500 metres comes with two hydraulic manipulators, a 12 function hydraulic solenoid pack, a pan and tilt camera, four simultaneous video channels – plus a range of options including survey suites, tracking systems and other specialist equipment. For more information go to www.seaeye.com

3. EVENTS, TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION

3.a) AWARDS IN PLENTY AT OI08, MARCH 2008, UK – NOMINATION DATE EXTENDED

The pivotal role played by marine science and ocean technology is to be explored at the 2008 Oceanology International Conference (OI08), with the theme 'Technology, Sustainability and the Oceans'. At the same time it will also ensure that individual achievements are suitably honoured. And, the deadline for nominations for the awards has now been extended to Monday 28 January 2008, with the judging ceremony taking place later that week.

There will be four very special awards presented during the conference, the 'OI Lifetime Achievement Award', the 'Alan Greig Memorial Prize', the 'Bob Barton Memorial Award'; and the 'AMSI Business Person of the Year 2008 Award'. The relevant forms can be found at www.sut.org.uk; www.imarest.org; www.maritimeindustries.org/about/amsi.jsp and www.oceanologyinternational.com and obtained by email from cheryl.ince@sut.org

3.b) SEICHE UNDERWATER ACOUSTICS COURSES TO BE PRESENTED IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, MARCH/ APRIL 2008, AUSTRALIA

Training in Underwater Acoustics will shortly become available to all marine working personnel in Australasia. Professor Rodney Coates of Seiche Ltd, will be presenting his Basic and Advanced Underwater Acoustics courses from 31st March to 4th April in Melbourne, Australia. The courses are being hosted by Sinclair Knight Merz and will give Australasia the opportunity to experience two of the highly acclaimed courses that have been held annually in London for the past 8 years. Professor Coates hopes that those in Europe and the UK, who have attended and enjoyed the Seiche courses, will alert their Australasian colleagues to the opportunity of attending these professional development courses. Those requiring further information on the Australian course can download a brochure at www.seiche.com/2008Australia, or contact Norm Broner Tel: +61 3 92483362 email: NBroner@skm.com.au.

The UK courses will again take place in September at the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington from 15 - 19 September. Download a brochure from www.seiche.com/2008Brochure or contact: Gillian Coates, Tel: +44 1407 720474 email: gacoates@seiche.com"

3.c) CALL FOR PAPERS FOR IMCA'S ANNUAL SEMINAR 2008, NOVEMBER 2008, MALAYSIA

A Call for Papers has been published by the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) for their 16th Annual Seminar. With the theme 'Global alignment in marine operations' the seminar will be held 5-6 November 2008 at the Hotel Nikko in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Abstracts of about 250 words should be sent to events@imca-int.com by 15 February 2008. Further information on the 16th event in the annual series will be available shortly on IMCA's website at www.imca-int.com, or from IMCA at 5 Lower Belgrave Street, London SW1W 0NR, UK. Tel: 020 7824 5520; Fax: +44 (0)20 7824 5521; Email: events@imca-int.com

3.d) OCEANSENSORS 08 - WORKSHOP, MARCH/ APRIL 2008, GERMANY

OceanSensors08 is a workshop for marine scientists, sensor developers and technologists with an interest in determining and shaping the future of ocean sensing. The workshop is divided in four areas; Climate - observation techniques and instruments for air/sea fluxes, carbon measurements; Ecosystems - observation techniques and instruments for ocean-omics, nutrient environment, ecosystem status, ground truthing of space-based observations; Hazards - observation techniques and instruments for geohazards, hydrometeorological hazards, pollution hazards and extreme events; Cross-cutting issues and emerging technologies. The full programme and further information can be found on the workshop WEB site <http://www.oceansensors08.org>

3.e) GLOBAL OFFSHORE PROSPECTS LECTURE, JANUARY 2008, LONDON, UK

Taking place on Wednesday 23 January 2008 at the Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, John Westwood, Managing Director of Douglas-Westwood, will examine the issues underlying the present state of the global industry such as soaring oil & gas demand, the outlook for oil & gas prices and the likely future impact of issues such as resource and people shortages. Steve Robertson, Assistant Director & Manager Oil & Gas, of Douglas-Westwood, will focus on the global offshore industry, presenting Douglas-Westwood's forecasts of markets including floating production, subsea, deepwater, and more, and give views of the next five years offshore capital and operational expenditure. John Westwood will then consider the business potential in the developing sectors of offshore wind, wave and tidal. For further information contact Michele Ross, michele.ross@sut.org or go to www.sut.org

3.f) FUGRO PLAYS CENTRAL ROLE AT INAUGURAL MEOST

Fugro is, as the major sponsor, playing a particularly central part in the inaugural Middle East Ocean Science and Technology Expo (MEOST 2008) being held in Abu Dhabi, 21-23 January 2008. The company will be demonstrating its wide range of expertise available in the Middle East region.

"Thanks to our wide spread of services, we are able to offer a fully integrated solution for companies in the Middle East region, as we do all around the world," explains Mike Dravitzki - General Manager, Fugro Survey Middle East . "Expertise represented on the Fugro stand at MEOST 2008, will range from offshore positioning and survey, seismic based reservoir characterization, metocean studies, environmental survey, airborne geophysical survey, airborne LIDAR hydrographic survey, and ROV services."

"Fugro are pleased to have this level of involvement with the Middle East's first ocean science exhibition and conference and are greatly looking forward to a highly stimulating and rewarding three days."

Further information on the Fugro services in the Middle East can be found on :

www.fugro-uae.com

3.g) ONR/MTS BUOY WORKSHOP 08, MARCH 2008, USA

ONR/MTS Buoy Workshop 08: From March 4-6, 2008 the seventh Buoy Workshop is being organised at the Hollywood Casino in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, USA, with site visits at the National Data Buoy Center

and the Naval Oceanographic Office at nearby Stennis Space Center, two premier facilities for buoy technology and related oceans research. For complete information go to www.whoi.edu/buoyworkshop

4.WHO'S ON THE MOVE

4.a) GEORGINA MARTIN LEAVE BAE SYSTEMS FOR THALES AEROSPACE

After 18 months working as the Communications Manager for BAE Systems – Underwater Systems Georgina Martin has joined Thales Aerospace based in Crawley, West Sussex.

4.b) IMarEST APPOINTS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Marine industry expert Marcus Jones has joined the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) as its first Chief Operating Officer, working closely with Chief Executive, Keith Read CBE. Marcus Jones was previously with Lloyd's Register Group where, since 2000, he was responsible for a £50m global oil and gas business, leading the development and implementation of global strategy and planning and delivery of the business plan. He also directed worldwide business development and the definition of the commercial, technical and marketing policies for the business, as well as technology developments and innovation. In this role he also lead the identification and progress of a number of acquisitions in strategic locations around the world. www.imarest.org

5. JOB POSTINGS

5.a) LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER IN ENERGY SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY, £36,006 – £47,935 PER ANNUM, CLOSING DATE 18TH JANUARY 2008

The Energy Technology Centre is active in power generation, offshore and underwater technology, CO2 capture and storage as well as renewable energy systems, including marine sources and bio-energy. The Centre operates major pilot facilities for the development of advanced energy processes and for underwater research. It possesses international expertise in the operational aspects of energy systems, such as risk, reliability, materials, durability, monitoring and inspection of components in land-based (e.g. boilers and gas turbines) and offshore systems. The appointee will join a multi-disciplinary team and will be expected to lead and undertake research into the process engineering of conventional / renewable energy or underwater technologies, to prepare technical reports, papers and research proposals. The appointee will also be expected to make a significant contribution to the School's very successful MSc in Offshore and Ocean Technology and related postgraduate programmes.

For an informal discussion contact John Oakey, Head, Energy Technology Centre on +44 (0)1234 754253, E: j.e.oakey@cranfield.ac.uk Application forms and further details are available from the Human Resources Department, Cranfield University, Cranfield, Bedford MK43 0AL. E: hr@cranfield.ac.uk or go to www.cranfield.ac.uk for further information

5.b) THREE GRIFFITH POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS: GEOMATICS FOR GEOSCIENCE, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK, IRELAND, THREE YEARS EACH, APPROX £55,000 EUROS PER ANNUM

The CMRC is a multidisciplinary research group in University College Cork (www.ucc.ie), whose primary objective is to make a significant contribution to the scientific understanding and management of coastal and marine environments (<http://cmrc.ucc.ie>).

Collaboration with the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) www.gsi.ie: This initiative will involve a high level of collaboration between the CMRC and the GSI. The candidates will be encouraged to spend time in the GSI offices, Dublin, to become fully familiar with data management and the geosciences domain, and to develop relationships with relevant contacts. The amount of time spent in the GSI will be flexible and will depend on individual researcher and project needs. The research will focus on web-enabled delivery and 4D visualisation of both terrestrial and marine geological datasets, including the Irish National Seabed Survey data. The work will also involve the building of a common data warehouse including metadata.

Objectives of the Project are to facilitate open access to GSI data via web enabled services; to achieve innovations in geoscience data management and delivery; to build experience within and collaboration between the GSI and CMRC; to engage the interest of the Irish geoscience community by providing examples of the benefits of data sharing.

Closing date for applications is Monday 21 January 2008. For a full job description and further information contact grainne.lynch@ucc.ie

5.c) OCEAN INSTRUMENTATION SALES, CALIFORNIA, USA

The Oceanscience Group is in its 10th year as a leader in developing and manufacturing innovative scientific products for oceanographers and surface water hydrologists. They are growing rapidly and are seeking a motivated, enthusiastic, articulate engineer/scientist to sell their products. This is a ground-floor opportunity to become a key player involved with a leading-edge oceanographic product line.

Activities will include direct customer contact, at-sea demonstrations, preparation of quotations and proposals, forecasting and market research. The successful applicant will maintain technical competency with all Oceanscience ocean products and must develop expert-level understanding of CTD products, data and applications.

Applicants should have extensive experience in shipboard CTD measurements, interest in training and educating users and a degree in ocean science or engineering. For further information contact Sandra Maring, smaring@oceanscience.com

5.d) CARTOGRAPHER/ CAD TECHNICIAN FOR GEMS SURVEY, UK – CLOSING DATE 31ST JANUARY 2008

GEMS Survey Limited are looking for a motivated and experienced Cartographer/CAD Technician to support their expanding team of surveyors. The role would mainly consist of the preparation of colour maps using Microstation and AutoCAD software. There will also be presentation of data using other 3D visualisation methods, including GIS and “fly through” packages.

Working in the Reporting Department as part of a growing team, the successful candidate can expect to work autonomously and to tight deadlines. GEMS are looking for a candidate who can actively advance their GIS capabilities. As the role progresses there are also opportunities for the training and supervision of junior members, as well as interdisciplinary training if needed.

GEMS would like to hear from candidates with the following experience: Degree of equivalent in Geosciences discipline, Minimum 3 years working in a Geosciences cartographic environment, Experience in working with GIS packages, Experience in working with 3D visualisation packages, Experience with AutoCAD, Bentley Microstation or other CAD packages, Ability to write macros to supplement software would be useful, Ability to work as part of a team to tight deadlines.

If you are interested in this position, please send your CV and a covering letter to meg.gilliard@gems-group.com Interviews will be held in early February at our Devides office.

6. AND FINALLY.....

6.a) GUTTORM HANSSEN OF FUGRO OCEANOR – AN OBITUARY

Fugro Oceanor AS is sad to report the untimely death of its Technical Manager, Guttorm Hanssen. He successfully survived heart surgery but succumbed at only 61 to a very rare and fatal neurological disease.

Guttorm Rudolf Hedley Hanssen was one of the pioneers in the development of the offshore industry in Norway. After being educated in electronics and communication in the navy and gathering valuable

experience at remote LORAN-C stations at Jan Mayen and in Greenland, his experience was very much sought after when offshore exploration activities started. He very quickly became one of the industry's key players particularly within the fields of radio systems and communication. Later he specialised in instrumentation and sensor technology where he played a vital role for close to 40 years, in particular within the specialisms of metocean data acquisition and environmental monitoring systems for offshore platforms, where his unique knowledge of these systems and installations proved invaluable from the very beginning.

As his colleague, Jon Arne Silgjerd explains: "Guttorm Hanssen was a very unusual person, with huge technical skills and an interest and zest for his work that is very rare. This made him a role model for many of his younger colleagues. The companies and the professions he developed are among the market leaders in the world today, and he leaves behind many who were inspired by his enormous skills while we were developing our own.

"His extraordinary memory also made him a living book of reference for colleagues and for clients. This combined with his vigorous northern humour made him a living legend in the business and provides all who knew him with a great many good stories and quotes that will make him live amongst us for a long time. "He will be deeply missed by his good friends and colleagues!" For further information, please contact: Anthony Gaffney, a.gaffney@oceanor.com