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

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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) WHEN SIZE MATTERS: CHELSEA LAUNCHES THE TRILUX FAMILY OF MINIATURE MULTI-WAVELENGTH FLUORIMETERS

Chelsea Technologies Group has launched an innovative series of new low cost miniature in-situ fluorimeters, which offer the user significantly increased functionality over existing in-situ fluorimeter designs. These compact, multi-wavelength fluorimeters are offered with the option of monitoring up to three different fluorescent parameters within a single probe. By selecting from a wide range of fluorophors, users can specify a TriLux fluorimeter tailored to their monitoring requirements.

The TriLux fluorimeters have been designed for moored, profiled, towed or ROV / AUV platforms and are an ideal tool for in-situ chlorophyll & algae class studies, dye tracing, particulate studies, process control and environmental monitoring. For more details please contact: Ellen Keegan, Chelsea Technologies Group, Tel: +44 (0)20 8481 9019, ekeegan@chelsea.co.uk.

1.b) SEEBYTE SELLS TWO MORE SEETRACK OFFSHORE UNITS

Subsea 7 is to receive two new Hercules Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs), currently being manufactured by SMD, fitted with SeeByte's Dynamic Positioning system; SeeTrack Offshore. The vehicles will add to the leading contractors' existing fleet of ROVs which provide services to the Subsea Umbilical, Riser and Flowline (SURF) sector.

SeeTrack Offshore adds additional automation to the ROV control process by providing the ability for the ROV to automatically maintain a fixed position above the seabed or follow a programmed course and speed. The system runs on the surface and is contained in a 19 inch rack. With SeeTrack Offshore the ROV can efficiently manoeuvre automatically compensating for the effects of currents. It can save time over conventional systems making operations safer and quicker. If you would like more information on this topic please contact Abelene Heuer on +44 (0)131 447 4200, ext 163, or email abelene.heuer@seebyte.com.

1.c) ATLANTAS MARINE DELIVERS NEW VIDEORAY ROV TO GLOBAL MARINE SYSTEMS LTD

Atlantas Marine, a leading supplier of products and services to the marine industry, today announced that Global Marine Systems Limited, Portland, has recently taken delivery of one of its new VideoRay Pro III XE GTO Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV.) Global Marine (GMS) are the world's largest independent provider of submarine cable installations and operate a range of very large subsea vehicles to assist with their cable operations.

GMS required a smaller, robust and portable ROV for near-shore work that they are undertaking and selected the VideoRay ROV manufactured by Atlantas Marine. The VideoRay is supplied in two pelican cases making it easy to transport around the world, either in cars, vans, planes or helicopters. It is robust enough to deal with sub zero temperatures and can cope with currents of up to 4 knots. For further information on Global Marine Systems please visit www.globalmarinesystems.com or for more information on Atlantas Marine please visit www.atlantasmarine.com

1.d) CUSTOM-BUILT CURRENT AND WAVE MONITORING SYSTEM

OSIL's (Ocean Scientific International Ltd.) expertise as a system provider were recently employed on a wave and current survey in Yemen, the end user for the data being a well known French oil company. The application's purpose is to collect current and wave data of shallow waters in support of a wider metocean study. The OSIL custom-built system included two Nortek AWACs for measuring current speed and directional waves, a Nortek Internal Wave Processor and a steel armoured data cable to transport the data once collected.

The AWACs were configured with the 2 km cable, which OSIL designed and built specifically for this application, along with the casing for the wave processor. The cable's design consists of an inner layer of polyurethane, a middle steel braided layer, followed by an outer polyurethane coating, to reduce any abrading that the seabed may cause to the cable. The cable's function is to carry the collected data from the AWACs to the external wave processor, where the data will be reduced into more concise sets before it is telemetered via GSM back to a base station in the United Kingdom. This arrangement will lower the costs of transporting the data and lowers the risk for potential data drop-out. For further information please visit www.osil.co.uk or contact Sophy Gasson at sophy.gasson@osil.co.uk.

1.e) TOUGHEST AND SMALLEST IN RELIABLE THICKNESS GAUGING

UK manufacturer of Ultrasonic thickness gauges, Cygnus Instruments, has introduced the brand new Cygnus 2 "Hands Free". The Cygnus 2 has long been a standard in the marine and rope access industries across the world. The company's roots are in ship surveying and diving. All its products are engineered to be reliable in extreme environments and, as such, are robust and versatile. Cygnus 2 gauges are also employed in oil & gas, pipelines, offshore, road tankers, civil engineering, storage tanks and many more plant maintenance industries.

Developed with the Cygnus-pioneered digital multiple echo technique, the new Cygnus 2 ignores protective coatings and gives error-checked measurements. Before a measurement is displayed the instrument checks that the return echoes are perfectly matched. This eliminates unverified, spurious readings, even on heavy corrosion. The multiple echo technique, as specified by all major Classification Societies, guarantees that Cygnus gauges are reliable and only give true, repeatable measurements.

The new Cygnus 2 is a total redesign. It is far smaller, lighter (275 g inc. batteries), tougher and water resistant (IP65). Now with automatic gain control, automatic probe recognition and automatic display brightness, it is even simpler to use. For more information and other products, please visit: www.cygnus-instruments.com. If you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact them via email to sales@cygnus-instruments.com or telephone on +44 (0) 1305 265 533.

1.f) MARINE MAGNETOMETERS HELP POLICE AND UTILITIES

Oil and utility companies have been laying pipelines under the ocean for many years. Before the introduction of GPS, marking their position was a difficult and tedious task. Over time the position and burial depth of a pipeline was often changed due to storms and other environmental forces. Today, there is a pressing need to accurately map the location of these lines to ensure they are not damaged by dredging, dropped anchors, and marine construction operations. With a large number of these pipelines decades old, there is also an urgent need to examine their condition and perform a thorough inspection. The problem is; many can not easily be located.

One of the best devices to help find these lost lines is a magnetometer. A "mag", as it is often called, is a super sensitive metal detector that can locate iron and steel objects at ranges in the hundreds of feet. When Bay County Utility Services in Panama City, Florida needed to locate an old water line that runs under Grand Lagoon, it turned to commercial diving company HT Marine Services for assistance. Equipped with a JW Fisher Diver Mag 1 hand-held magnetometer, HT's divers entered the area where they suspected the pipeline was buried under several feet of mud and silt. They began working a grid pattern and soon the mag began to indicate the presence of a significant steel mass. Divers were alerted to presence of a target by strong readings on the instrument's visual and audio alarms.

In addition to their use in the commercial diving industry, mags have also become popular with law enforcement agencies and military units. The Underwater Crime Scene Investigation team at Florida State University has developed a unique training opportunity for public safety dive teams. Their program provides advanced training in crime scene investigation for aquatic environments. The focus is on operational techniques and protocols available to the underwater investigator.

For more information on marine magnetometers and metal detectors go to www.jwfishers.com.

1.g) REED BUSINESS GEO LAUNCHES EUROPEAN WATER PLATFORM

The importance of water is ever increasing in European policy and business agendas. Water is not only essential to life – it is also a prerequisite for doing business, especially in sectors such as energy, transport, agriculture and tourism. Water challenges are growing around the world and Europe is by no means safe on water. Half the European population lives in water scarce countries and large areas of Europe face an increasing risk of flooding. Climate change further aggravates these challenges.

To address these challenges, Reed Business Geo (The Netherlands) is proud to announce the release of the new online information platform for developments, technologies and solutions in water management: www.european-waternews.com. For more information please contact Joost Boers, Managing Editor, joost.boers@reedbusiness.nl, or Victor van Essen, Account Manager, victor.van.essen@reedbusiness.nl. Subscription to the e-newsletter is free and can be arranged through the website.

1.h) “YELLOW SUBMARINE” ROBOT GLIDER SAILS BENEATH THE WAVES FROM NEW JERSEY TO HALIFAX

Taking a page from Benjamin Franklin’s description of the Gulf Stream and a colour scheme out of a classic Beatles song, a robotic ocean glider rode the currents to complete a historic voyage from the coast of New Jersey to Halifax, Nova Scotia, silently collecting gigabytes of ocean data along the way. The glider – a two-meter “yellow submarine” - was launched on March 7, 2008 and travelled over 2600 kilometres before being recovered off Halifax on April 28. Named after Joshua Slocum, a Nova Scotian who was the first person to sail solo around the world, the robot adjusted its buoyancy and centre of gravity to glide up and down through the ocean depths without active propulsion. As it was gliding, it collected three-dimensional data of the ocean environment with an unprecedented level of resolution. The glider was steered to take advantage of the northward flow of the Gulf Stream, and then was able to catch a ring of water spinning off the Gulf Stream to position the device onto the Canadian continental shelf.

The expedition was a joint international project with Dalhousie University and Satlantic Inc., both of Halifax, Nova Scotia, who tracked the progress and coordinated the pickup of the robot at the end of the voyage. For further information please contact Dr Marlon Lewis, Dalhousie University, Marlon.Lewis@dal.ca.

2. WHO’S ON THE MOVE?

2.a) NEW VP OF SALES FOR EMEA JOINS RESON

RESON recently announced that Angus Cooper has joined RESON on 1st May as Vice President of Sales for EMEA. Having more than 20 years of international work experience within the offshore and homeland security industries, Angus brings to the company a comprehensive hands-on knowledge about these markets. Angus joins RESON from Thales, where he held various positions, most recently as Business Development Director for Homeland Security. Angus Cooper’s career includes working for companies like Fugro and Racal Survey. Angus will be responsible for the overall sales activities of RESON products in Europe, Middle East and Africa, where he will continue implementing RESON’s growth strategy based on a number of new products and markets. For more information on RESON, please visit www.reson.com.

4. JOB POSTINGS

4.a) TELEDYNE TSS SEEKS SALES MANAGER

Teledyne TSS is recruiting for a senior Sales Manager to manage its worldwide sales and business development activities (excluding the Americas). The position will be based in Watford, Hertfordshire UK and involved extensive worldwide travel. The successful candidate will manage a team of regional sales managers worldwide to achieve the target sales and assist in developing the Company's core product range to meet customer requirements in different applications. The successful candidate will have a technical background with more than 5 years experience in a sales and marketing environment - preferably

within the Marine industry. Please contact Carolyn Jones, Marketing & HR Manager - cmjones@teledyne.com - in the first instance.

5. AND FINALLY

5.a) WEARY CYCLISTS REACH JOHN O'GROATS

Many OceanBuzz readers will have been tracking the progress of David Goldsmith, oceanographer with RS Aqua Ltd, as he and brother Chris cycled from Land's End to John O'Groats during the first two weeks of May. We are delighted to report that the ride was successfully completed when the two weary pedalists reached their destination at 15.30hrs on Saturday 15th May with a total of 975 miles (1560 kms) behind them. David reports that the trip was a wonderful experience and that, in general, the notoriously variable British weather was very kind to them.

We know that many of our readers contributed either individually or corporately to the sponsorship for the ride and we also know that the Iridium and Argos tracking facilities were extensively used and, indeed, became somewhat addictive (in the nicest possible way) to followers. The brothers produced a daily blog on their website (www.goldsmithsbikebritain.co.uk) and received many supportive messages along the way. The blog now contains several images taken along the route including some very smiley ones at the destination point.

As we go to press the sponsorship total approaches the £8,500 mark. The original target of £5,000 was exceeded well before the ride started and the bar was subsequently raised twice to the final figure of £10,000. All proceeds go to the charity Epilepsy Bereaved, a cause very close to David and Chris as they have both friends and family affected by epilepsy. Also, the proprietors of RS Aqua Ltd, Roger and Sandie Scrivens, lost their youngest daughter Becky to SUDEP (Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy) in May 2004 when just 3 months short of her 12th birthday. You can read Becky's Story at www.rsaqua.co.uk and can find out more about Epilepsy Bereaved at www.sudep.org. The charity focuses on support for research into the causes and prevention of SUDEP which accounts for more than 500 deaths a year in the UK alone – more than the combined total from cot deaths and aids.

If you have yet to support this valiant effort, thereby benefitting a small charity that has already made a significant difference to the way epilepsy is understood and treated, time is still on your side. The brother's website has a direct link to the Just Giving sponsorship page which will remain open for some while yet.

Well done David and Chris!