

oceanbuzz!

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

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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1.a) CONTRA COSTA COUNTY PURCHASES CODA UNDERWATER INSPECTION SYSTEM

CodaOctopus has announced that its Coda Underwater Inspection System™ (UIS), developed in cooperation with the US Coast Guard, has been purchased by the Sheriff's Office of Contra Costa County, California, USA. The authority will be the first on USA's West Coast to permanently deploy the UIS, developed after the 9/11 attacks to address the need for a new generation of port security technology to respond to underwater threats.

"The UIS will play the key role in enhancing our underwater security capability and assisting our efforts to secure shore side critical infrastructure in the California Bay and Delta regions. Having seen this unique technology in action when the All-Star Game was held in San Francisco, we are very excited to add this powerful 3D real time sonar technology to our counter terrorism efforts. This is the only system of its kind that can produce the sort of detailed information we need and in real time, which significantly improves our capability to protect the public", commented Lieutenant Will Duke of the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff.

Jason Reid, Coda Octopus President and CEO, said he viewed the Contra Costa order as a significant milestone for the Company. "We have always envisaged the ports and local law enforcement agencies of the United States as a very large and important market for these devices", Reid said. "The orders in recent months by Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and now Contra Costa confirm our belief in the uniqueness and importance of the technology and of the products we have to offer", he continued. "A large number of US law enforcement agencies and ports have shown significant interest in the UIS, and we look forward to confirming additional orders in the near future", he added.

The Coda UIS, which was utilised by the San Francisco Police Department as part of the security efforts at the 2007 All-Star Baseball Game, utilises Coda's patented real time 3D sonar technology, the Coda Echoscope™, to identify and classify objects underwater, enabling much more rapid and effective searches of ports and waterways. The system has already been deployed by the US Coast Guard and in the Middle East and Asia; it has also been previously purchased by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office for use on their small patrol vessels.

Examples of 3D real time sonar and imagery from the Coda UIS and the Echoscope can be found in the on-line gallery at: http://www.codaoctopus.com/3d_ac_im/gallery.asp

For further information please Tel: +44 (0)131 553 1380 or visit: www.codaoctopus.com.

1.b) FALMOUTH SCIENTIFIC ANNOUNCES SHIPMENT OF DEEPWATER POSITIONING BUOYS

Falmouth Scientific, Inc., (FSI) a local Cape Cod company, announces its recent shipment of 30 deepwater positioning buoys worth almost half-a-million dollars to the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP). These beacons will be employed by IODP's drilling vessel for deepwater (6000-meter) positioning. FSI's instruments will be used to accurately position IODP's drilling ships in order to extract cores of the Earth's crust at the bottom of the ocean. The mission of the IODP is to explore Earth's history and structure recorded in seafloor sediments and rocks, and to monitor sub-seafloor environments. Their efforts are part of a global team from the US, Japan, China, Korea and Europe.

FSI specializes in specialty ocean sensors and integrated acoustic solutions. Known primarily for its high-precision instruments that measure conductivity temperature and depth for determining ocean salinity and the speed of sound in water, FSI also supplies water current meters, specialty acoustic underwater transducers, communications buoys and underwater vehicles. Recent R&D activities at the company have been targeting renewable energy systems for ocean research including a novel sea-water activated fuel cell power system and a solar-powered autonomous underwater vehicle. Customers of FSI include the US Navy, NOAA, USGS, oil & gas exploration companies, universities and research institutions from around the globe. Located in Cataumet, Massachusetts, FSI employs 25 people and has been in the business of marine electronics for nearly 20 years.

For further information please contact Frances Lewis on Tel: +1 508 564 7640 x 107 or email flewis@falmouth.com

1.c) TRIAXYS™ WITH CURRENTS BUOY TO IMPROVE TANKER BERTHING SAFETY

AXYS Technologies Inc. has been awarded a contract from Metocean Services International (MSI) of South Africa to supply a TRIAXYS™ with Currents buoy. The buoy will provide wave and current data to tankers approaching a conventional buoy mooring (CBM) facility, which is anchored offshore and serves as a mooring point for tankers to offload oil products. Armed with environmental data at their fingertips, ship captains will have the ability to make mission critical decisions quickly, thereby improving safety at sea and knowledge of environmental conditions around the CBM. In addition, company engineers, pipeline construction managers, work crews, and regulatory authorities will be able to access buoy data via AXYS' proprietary WaveView™ software.

TRIAXYST™ with Currents is a rugged, lightweight data collection buoy. The 0.9m diameter solar-powered instrument collects, processes, stores and transmits wave & current information to a shore base station in near real time. The buoy features an integrated Nortek Aquadopp Acoustic Doppler Profilers (ADP) that obtains detailed current profiles through the water column. Terms of the sale are confidential and have not been provided. The buoys will be air freighted to the client in late 2008. MSI will undertake the deployment and servicing of the buoy.

For further information, please visit www.axystechnologies.com or email AXYS at: info@axys.com.

1.d) MORGAN REED RECEIVES FUGRO'S "HERMAN ZUIDBERG AWARD FOR INNOVATION"

Morgan Reed, Lidar Development Manager with survey company John Chance Land Surveys, Inc. (Lafayette, LA) is the third recipient of Fugro's "Herman Zuidberg Award for Innovation."

The namesake of this prestigious Fugro award is long-time Fugro innovator and inventor Herman Zuidberg. This Fugro Engineer, who has been working for the company for 40 years, put his work into a simple perspective: 'Development is making something possible that was previously thought impossible. It is the modification and adaption of technical systems, of human beings. Development is generally not inventing something.'

Reed was chosen as this year's recipient for his design, development and integration of Fugro's airborne laser system, called FLI-MAP® (Fast Laser Imaging-Mapping and Profiling). The FLI-MAP system is a cost-effective and innovative alternative to traditional surveying and mapping. The helicopter-based system is used for terrain mapping, primarily for the utility, transportation, and rail industries.

Reed earned a B.S. Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and has been employed by Fugro for 18 years. Reed is the second Lafayette, LA recipient of this award. The first recipient was Dr. Dariusz Lapucha, Senior Geodesist with offshore survey company Fugro Chance Inc., also a Lafayette, LA company, who received it two years ago.

FLI-MAP has been used on several notable projects within the U.S. The FLI-MAP system was utilized to conduct damage assessment surveys on over 400 miles of levees in New Orleans following the aftermath of hurricane Katrina. The system was also selected by the Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Commission to map ground and vegetation features on sedimentation areas along the base of the Grand Canyon. In Europe, FLI-MAP is being utilized to map archeological features in Cephalonia, an island off the east coast of Greece. The clients on this project have described FLI-MAP as "virtual napalm" because it allows the data processors to filter out the dense vegetation to clearly reveal archeological features such as old stone walls and building foundations.

John Chance Land Surveys, Inc. is a member of the international Fugro group of companies which has approximately 12,000 staff permanently stationed in over 50 countries. As a global leader, Fugro offers advanced geotechnical surveying, seismic, oceanographic, and positioning services.

For further information please contact Dixie Poche at dpoche@fugrochance.com or tel: +1 337 268 3286.

1.e) GRL SHIPS DEEPLIVE 2.0 TO DEEPOCEAN

GRL is shipping DeepLive 2.0 its real-time data input module and the first customer is DeepOcean AS for its new Inspection, Maintenance & Repair (IMR) vessel, the Edda Fauna which has been specially built for DeepOcean's Statoil contract.

DeepLive 2.0 is a supplementary data input module for DeepView 2.0. DeepLive accepts NMEA data inputs (including those from GPS, gyro and USBL systems) to show the position, in a 3D visualisation, of subsea objects like a vessel and its ROV, or a pipe-lay barge and its anchor lines. This allows real-time tracking of ROV manoeuvres near a subsea structure, or monitoring touchdown during cable or pipeline deployment.

DeepLive 2.0's advanced user interface makes it simple to operate in the field, using drag and drop technology to build up world models quickly and easily. With automatic data collection, display and saving, it allows multiple simultaneous views of the subsea world to be replayed at any point for live monitoring, peer review by engineers or showing to clients. DeepLive 2.0 reduces pilot stress and increases client confidence by providing a clear view of all subsea assets in real-time.

GRL is bringing to market its DeepWorks engineering software platform that will provide clients with the ability to simulate, visualise and monitor all stages of a project. DeepLive is the part of DeepWorks that provides live monitoring of subsea engineering operations.

For further information on General Robotics Ltd please visit www.generalrobotics.co.uk or tel: +44 (0)1908 224 670

1.f) L-3 KLEIN ASSOCIATES, INC. FEATURED IN MIT MUSEUM EXHIBIT

L-3 Communications has announced that its Klein Associates, Inc. subsidiary (L-3 Klein) has been featured in the MIT Museum in an exhibit entitled: Klein Side Scan Sonar: A World Leader in Ocean Exploration.

The Exhibit chronicles the history of Klein Side Scan Sonar from founder, Marty Klein's, early years at MIT. It takes us through the beginnings of side scan sonar, how it works and key historic discoveries. It continues through the formation of Klein Associates, Inc. and the development of a commercial product and market up through its current value as an important tool in Ocean Exploration.

The MIT Museum is located in Cambridge Massachusetts where the exhibit may be viewed. To see more about the exhibit, please visit: <http://web.mit.edu/museum/exhibitions/kleinsidescansonar>.

To learn more about L-3 Communications Klein Associates, Inc., please visit the company's web site at www.L-3Klein.com.

1.g) NEW THRUSTER SYSTEM FOR DUTCH SUBMARINE

Silvercrest has delivered a complete new thruster system for a Perry dry-transfer five man submarine owned by the Dutch Company OTN. This submarine will be used in SE. Asia, to transfer construction workers into an underwater tunnel system.

The new propulsion system is 240VDC based, using a 6-pole motor with its inverter drive programmed for maximum frequency output of 40-45 Hz. Using a directly driven motor to propeller configuration, this relates to a top speed of 900RPM. The thruster nozzle and propeller were designed for optimum performance at this speed, with as linear a performance profile as possible. The propellers and nozzles were custom designed for each application, using computer 3D modeling to analyze the CFD of our designs to visualize and adjust operating profiles.

For more information please contact: SILVERCREST SUBMARINES, Tel: (+44) 1285 760620 or email: sales@SilvercrestSubmarines.com.

1.h) HYDROSPHERE INSTALLS PORT TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN ROTHESAY HARBOUR

Leading UK Aids to Navigation supplier, Hydrosphere, has recently installed a Port traffic signal system in Rothesay Harbour on the Isle of Bute in west Scotland. The small, but busy harbour is used by a number of pleasure craft and the Island's small fishing community as well as receiving the Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) Wemyss Bay - Bute ferry up to 20 times a day.

Explains Jeff Gibson, director, Hydrosphere: "The Stop/Go traffic light system we have installed in Rothesay Harbour is part of the Argyll and Bute Council's drive to standardise its marine lighting and vessel control systems to ensure that all systems are offering maximum safety for those using harbours within the Council's jurisdiction.

"The system is a welcome addition to the harbour's safety as during ferry berthing operations a strong wash is created across the harbour entrance which could sweep smaller craft onto the rocks. The traffic signals prevent movements at these times. The new installation complies with recommendations from the international lighthouse authority, IALA, on best practice methods for controlling traffic movements in ports and port approaches. This ensures that the signals are understood by locals and visitors alike"

The traffic lights at Rothesay Harbour are controlled via a custom-designed, radio control system which can handle complete or restricted light combinations.

The control system communicates with a control unit at the mast which drives the signal lights. Light output is monitored and fed back to the main control system in the harbour office. The light system utilises high efficiency LED lights which are more durable and consume much less power than conventional systems. Power is provided from a mains supply with a battery backup to ensure the lights stay on in the event of power failure.

For further information please contact Andy Reid on Tel: +44 (0)1420 520374 or email: andy@hydrosphere.co.uk or visit www.hydrosphere.co.uk.

2. EVENT, TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION NEWS

2.a) IMAREST STANLEY GRAY LECTURE, 8th SEPTEMBER 2008

Arctic Ocean ice cover, which appeared earlier this summer to be headed for a moderate recovery after last year's record-setting retreat, has begun disintegrating so rapidly in recent weeks that experts now say the ice loss by mid-September could exceed even 2007's history-making meltdown.

Indeed, the Canadian Ice Service is reporting an "unprecedented" opening of waters in the Beaufort Sea north of the Yukon-Alaska border, where expected increases in ship traffic have just prompted the U.S. Coast Guard to establish two new outposts on Alaska's north coast to strengthen its vessel-monitoring and search-and-rescue capabilities.

Just a week ago Robin McKie wrote in The Observer: "Ice at the North Pole melted at an unprecedented rate last week, with leading scientists warning that the Arctic could be ice-free in summer by 2013.

The 'New Maritime Arctic' is the highly topical subject that will come under the lecture spotlight on 8 September 2008 when Dr Lawson Brigham, Chair, Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA) and Deputy Director of the US Arctic Research Commission (Anchorage, Alaska), USA delivers the next Stanley Gray Lecture at the headquarters of the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST).

Dr Brigham will explore how a reduction in Arctic sea ice during the melt season and rapid technological advances have already combined, leading to rapid development in the circumpolar region and will provide an informative overview of the achievements of the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (2005-2008). He will introduce the social, economic and environmental impacts of shipping in the Arctic today. He will also

take a look into the future of shipping in this rapidly changing region of the Earth. The opportunities and challenges these changes in marine activities represent for governments and local Arctic communities will be discussed alongside a debate of the risks, both to human safety and the environment, of operating in this pristine and demanding region.

The Lecture will be delivered at IMarEST, 80 Coleman Street, London EC2R 5BJ. Attendance is free of charge to IMarEST members and non-members alike. The evening begins with tea and networking at 17.00; the lecture starts at 17.30 and the post-lecture reception is at 18.45.

Reservations can be made online at www.imarest.org, through direct contact with the IMarEST Events Department at +44 (0)20 7382 2655 or at events@imarest.org

3. JOB POSTINGS

3.a) SEA-BIRD ELECTRONICS, USEA – REQUIRES SALES/APPLICATIONS ENGINEER

Sea-Bird Electronics is a manufacturer of CTD instrumentation. Business is growing and they have a position open for a Sales/Applications Engineer in their Seattle-area corporate office. They serve oceanographic researchers world-wide applying their expertise in salinity and oxygen measurements to developing instruments (CTDs) for tomorrow's research and ocean monitoring needs. Their technical sales approach is consultative and collaborative.

Applicants must be able to promote dialog with scientists, engineers and technicians to discuss measurement objectives and the operational conditions likely to affect them, recommend instruments that will produce the best quality data, and clearly communicate technical information. They should also have sensitivity and flexibility to work with international end users, the company's sales reps, system integrators, and resellers.

Initial responsibilities include responding to customer and rep inquiries for information, applications assistance and price quotations, entering sales orders, and building strong relationships with customers. Applicants will be expected to develop expert knowledge of our products, the principles behind the determination of salinity and measurements of temperature, conductivity pressure and oxygen, and the company sales and service policies and procedures. A modest amount of domestic and foreign travel is expected.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and should have a degree in a physical science or engineering, personal computer skills, and must be self-motivated and very skilled in written and oral English communications. Experience selling a technical product internationally is desired. Excellent salary and profit sharing/benefits package available to qualified candidates. Non-smoking facilities. Send a cover letter and resume by e-mail to jobs@seabird.com. NO PHONE CALLS.

3.b) FUGRO SEAFLOOR SURVEYS, USA – POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Fugro Seafloor Surveys, Inc. is part of the Fugro Group of offshore, geotechnical and geoscience companies. They operate at sea around the world. They are a multidisciplinary company, providing expertise in marine geology/geophysics, swath mapping, site investigations, desktop studies and sonar-related engineering.

Their current job opportunities include the following: • Surveyor/Navigator • Surveyor/Cartographer • Geologist • Data Solutions Manager, Geophysical Data Analyst • HSEQ-Base Support Services Manager, Field Engineering Manager • Field Technician

To apply or see full listings, please visit www.fugro.com. FSSI is a highly capable, collaborative team of individuals who take pride in their work and rally around meeting challenges. They are an intrepid group with an adventurous spirit. They take their work seriously but also enjoy a good laugh whether in the office at our Friday meetings or exploring ports of call. They offer challenging opportunities which allow their employees to expand their skills and advance their careers through innovation and responsibility. International travel, multi-cultural teamwork, a worldwide network of companies, competitive compensation and benefits are among the many perks they offer.

To learn more about Fugro Seafloor Surveys please visit www.seafloor.com.

4. And Finally...

4.a) REGIONAL SPILL RESPONSE MANAGER IN EPIC RESCUE MISSION

Allan Howarth, Regional Manager for Briggs Marine Environmental Services, saved his trapped family from war-torn Georgia with a 1200-mile rescue mission. Allan's 43-hour dash ended in him saving his Georgian wife Tamara and their two children just an hour before Russian troops overran the mountain village where they were on holiday.

He dodged roadblocks by driving over the mountains and through retreating Georgian forces on a 1200-mile round trip to reach his stranded family and get them to safety. Last night, he said: "It does sound a bit like a Hollywood action movie. If I'd been an hour later, I wouldn't have got them. It was that close." Allan, 38, who is based in Baku in neighbouring Azerbaijan, was on business in his native Aberdeen when the bloody conflict broke out. As the Russian tanks rolled in on Sunday, he flew back to Baku and set off in his Toyota Landcruiser to rescue his family. You can read the unabridged account at <http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2008/08/14/scots-hero-s-1200-mile-journey-into-war-torn-georgia-to-rescue-family-86908-20696674/>