

oceanbuzz!

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

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1. OCEAN BUSINESS NEWS

1.a) OCEAN BUSINESS 2009 - BOOK YOUR HOTEL NOW!

The official hotel and accommodation agent for Ocean Business, Destination Southampton are ready to take your bookings!

Have a look at the website for listings, descriptions and prices -

<http://www.oceanbusiness.com/travel/accommodation.aspx> . We encourage you to book early as rooms are expected to be in high demand. We have allocated hotel rooms all over Southampton, but the largest block is at the Jurys Inn which is only 1.5 miles from the Ocean Business venue and it has a good bar that stays open late into the night!! You might also like to try either, the Novotel, Ibis or Etap hotels which are all located together offering a varying degree of prices with the Novotel as the most expensive and the Etap Hotel as a budget option. The Novotel bar has recently been renovated and is likely to act as a hub for visitors and exhibitors staying in this area.

To book, all you need to do is email Shirley@destinationsouthampton.com or call +44 (0) 2380 235211.

2. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

2.a) OFFSHORE SURVEY COMPANY FUGRO CHANCE INC. WORKS IN GULF OF MEXICO FOLLOWING HURRICANES

Following the havoc caused by recent hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, offshore survey company Fugro Chance Inc. is utilising its technology to re-position oil rigs and pipelines and inspect platforms.

Especially valuable is Fugro's proprietary Gulf of Mexico data base which is used to track the location of structures and potential hazards. The multi-layered data base is useful to Chance personnel to work with clients in planning projects and assuring a safer offshore operation. It contains vast volumes of geographic information and has been recognised as the most comprehensive data base of wells, pipelines, and hazards in the Gulf. The data comes from 50 years of Fugro's in-house fieldwork as well as sources such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Minerals Management Service (MMS).

The MMS, with Fugro's permission, is currently using maps generated from Fugro's data base as a basis for their "Notice to Lessees" on which platforms need to be inspected following the hurricanes.

Fugro also incorporates its navigation tools such as STARFIX.NAV® which offers clear navigation guidance in positioning rigs. STARFIX.NAV is a graphic positioning and navigation system which incorporates real-time positioning in a graphic display of the physical survey depicted on screen.

Fugro Chance is a member of the Fugro group of companies. Worldwide, Fugro promotes a "Safety Always Matters" program to express Fugro's commitment to a culture of total safety for its employees. Fugro has 275 offices in more than 50 countries and 11,000 employees.

For more information please visit www.fugrochance.com or contact Tel: +1 337 268 3286.

2.b) BOWTECH, BOSS AND THOMSON

Speaking to Alex Thomson Racing, whilst they prepare for the blue ribbon Vendée Globe, departing 9th November 2008, Skipper Alex said:-

"I have used Bowtech cameras in the most extreme of environments and have been able to capture virtually unseen footage, which provides my sponsors with a great return for their investment. Reliability is the key to solo round the world racing and Bowtech delivers."

For the original HUGO BOSS Open 60 class yacht, skipper Alex Thomson chose Bowtech Cameras.

Alex is a major talent in elite international yacht racing. Together with the world's most fashionable sponsor, Hugo Boss, he is attempting three round the world races in three years, racing the Open 60 class. These are amongst the fastest and most high-tech yachts in the world.

The three races comprise of the Solo Velux 5 Oceans in 2006 followed by the Barcelona World Race 2007 - 2008 in which Alex finished in second place. He is now preparing for his next race, the infamous Vendée Globe which starts in Nov 2008.

See unique Bowtech Video Footage at <http://www.at-racing.co.uk/atrtv/videos.asp?id=6> (Click Play once in the page)

For further information, please contact Mike Winstanley on Tel: +44 (0)1224 772345 or Email: bowtech@bowtech.co.uk. www.bowtech.co.uk

2.c) NETMC MARINE APPOINTS FIRST RESELLER

NETmc Marine, the Scottish based designer and manufacturer of digital video recorders, has announced the appointment of ROVworld Lda of Portugal as a Reseller of the 73fifty Peli DVR. This is the first time NETmc Marine has appointed a reseller for any of its products and is the start of a new marketing campaign to promote it's products to a wider market.

The 73fifty Peli was specifically designed as a partner product for the small inspection/eyeball class ROV. It is designed around the well proven 73fifty rack mount system, of which nearly 200 are now in use in the offshore market replacing the out dated VCR and, complicated to use, DVD HD combos.

The 73fifty Peli is an MPEG2 DVR housed in a 1300 size Pelican case and is available in Yellow or Black; the unit is small, lightweight (4kg), portable and very easy to use. The user interface reflects the controls of a VCR so users find it very quick to learn its operation. There is a set up screen for configuring the system that allows the user to select date formats, set the time and date and select the required bit rate.

The video is recorded to the units own internal hard drive and is uploaded to a PC via USB using the free upload software. This software is used to export the files to the PC's own hard drive, or another storage device, and to delete the files on the DVR's hard drive. The 73fifty Peli is also a video player, so all the files recorded can be played back to a monitor straight from the unit, and it also has the facility to take stills during recording or playback on the recorder

The system can be supplied on its own or with the optional built in monitor and video overlay.

ROVworld Lda, was incorporated in June 2008 to promote sales of underwater equipment and services to the underwater inspection market. In addition to selling the 73fifty Peli they are also distributors for the AC-ROV micro ROV from AC-CESS Co UK Limited in Scotland.

The owners of the company also run the world renowned internet-based information website www.rovworld.com.

For further information please contact NETmc Marine Ltd by email: sales@netmcmarine.co.uk or Tel: +44(0)1771644001. www.netmcmarine.co.uk

2.d) TRITECH INTRODUCE THE NEW, DIGITAL, SIDE SCAN FAMILY AT UUVS

A new digital side scan family is being launched at The Unmanned Underwater Vehicle Showcase (UUVS) in Southampton, this week.

Subsea technology company, Trittech International are showcasing the new comprehensive range which has been tailored to suit requirements from shallow depth imaging to seeing in far deeper conditions.

Building on the success of the advanced side scan sonar systems Trittech complete the family with the next generation model, the daddy of the family; The SeaKing Towfish SK150 DST. Specifically designed to fly at depths of up to 250 meters, the SK150 can be used for high resolution surveys at depths other lighter systems can't reach.

The SK150 combines the very latest Trittech DST (Digital Sonar Technology) electronics with industry leading transducer design and digital CHIRP signal processing techniques to dramatically improve range resolution and generate sonar images of unprecedented clarity.

The advanced 150kHz composite transducer assembly provides superior image quality and long range. The SK150's simple, modular design provides increased reliability and facilitates quick in-field repairs should any damage occur during operation. All electronics are located in a single subsea pressure housing isolated from the rest of the towfish.

The low cost, stabilising fins can be easily replaced if damaged and a simple sheer and recovery mechanism is provided in the event of the SK150 becoming snagged.

As part of the Trittech SeaKing suite of survey sensors, it is possible to run the SK150 with other SeaKing sensors over one communication link. The SeaKing Towfish SK150 DST may be connected to a Seanet SCU surface control or most standard laptops and PC's with Trittech Seanet Pro software installed. In addition to the display of side scan sonar data, the system will take position input from GPS. This information is recorded along with the sonar data to allow a 'fix' of a target. The post processing export facility will convert the logged data to XTF and CSV formats for third party software packages. The SK150 is also fully compatible with all Kiltex and Easyreeling electric winches. Visitors to UUVS '08 can preview the side scan family on the Trittech Stand 456.

For further information on Trittech please visit www.tritech.co.uk or contact Tel: +44 (0)1224 744111 or Email: lisa-mann@tritech.co.uk

2.e) EB SEA STALLIONS RIDE AGAIN

Increased activity in the submarine telecom and offshore renewables sectors has seen a dramatic rise in the usage of Sea Stallion cable ploughs designed and built by IHC Engineering Business (EB). Sea Stallion ploughs that have been 'resting' since the collapse of the submarine telecoms industry in 2001 have been brought back into service as this industry expands once more whilst Sea Stallion ploughs are being used at the majority of new offshore windfarm projects to install and protect submarine power cables.

EB has also recently received an order from Tyco Telecommunications (US) for an all new Sea Stallion 3 plough system for delivery Christmas 2008. "We are delighted to see this superb workhorse back in demand," says Dr Tony Trapp, Managing Director of EB. "A Sea Stallion 3 has been mobilised on the 'CS Durable' by Tyco and has been working hard in the South China Sea; a second is being bought back into service by Tyco to support cable operations in the Atlantic, and now they have ordered a third Sea Stallion 3. This is an important milestone as it is the first new plough system we have supplied to the submarine telecoms industry since the 2001 collapse, and the order highlights both the resurgence of this industry, and the technical superiority of the Sea Stallion plough technology." The new plough being built on Tyneside for Tyco Telecommunications will be capable of burial up to 3m, able to work in water depths up to 2000m, be supplied with a buoyant umbilical to shorten launch and recovery times and improve productivity; and feature an advanced control system in a 20' air conditioned control cabin. All EB cable ploughs feature a unique share design that allows aggressive cable burial in a wide range of seabed conditions whilst minimising the residual tension in the installed cable. An advanced SCADA/PLC based control system permits accurate operation of the plough whilst providing comprehensive 'as laid data.

It is not only the telecoms industry where EB is seeing an increase in interest and orders. They have recently supplied a specialised Chalk Share to Subocean Group for use on the Thanet windfarm project; and the Sea Stallion 4 supplied to Visser & Smit Global Marine Contracting will be used on both the Thorntonbank and Gunfleet Sands windfarms.

The Sea Stallion 4 differs from Sea Stallion 3 in that it is specifically designed for the installation of large diameter, stiff power cables in tough seabed conditions. It has proved ideal for offshore wind developments and again its aggressive burial and reliability has come in for much praise from operators.

Further information on the Sea Stallion range is available at www.engb.com and from IHC Engineering Business by calling Tel: +44 (0)1434 682800.

3. EVENT, TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION NEWS

3.a) OCEAN ENERGY CONFERENCE, 6TH OCTOBER 2008, MA, USA

The Marine Renewable Energy Center is hosting its first Conference on Ocean Energy for New England on Monday October 6, 2008 at the Advanced Technology & Manufacturing Center in Fall River, Mass. 8:30AM-5:00PM. The purpose of the conference is to highlight new government initiatives, technology options, partnering opportunities and research needs for the emerging ocean energy business in New England waters.

The event is a kick-off for a consortium made up research institutions, technology developers, federal and local agencies and other stakeholders to learn about all facets of harnessing energy from currents, tides, waves and wind energy economically and without conflict in the waters off the New England coast.

The conference will be lead by a distinguished group of experts from industry, government and policy. UMass-Dartmouth Chancellor, Jean McCormack will welcome all to the Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Center. Congressman William Delahunt will provide a review of federal initiatives and Congressman James McGovern will address the importance of marine renewable energy sources for New England. Andrew Mill of UK Renewable Energy Council will provide and update on how the UK is progressing in this area. Pricilla Brooks, Ph.D. Conservation Law Foundation will address how preservation can be balanced for economic sustainability. Robert LaBelle, of the Minerals Management Service, US Department of the Interior will discuss how the federal government is gearing up to support ocean energy test sites and production systems. Philip Giudice Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources will give an overview of the ocean energy prospects for Massachussets. Go to the web site to obtain a detailed agenda with additional speakers and topics.

Panelists from industry, government, technology development and public policy will discuss current activities and challenges of working within state and/or federal waters collaboratively. A final agenda, registration materials and more information about the MREC are available at www.mrec.umassd.edu.

3.b) IMCA SAFETY SEMINAR, 11TH – 12TH MARCH 2009, HOUSTON USA

The 2009 International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) members-only safety and environmental seminar, with its theme 'Health, Safety and the Environment: Covering the Global HSE Bases' will take place on 11-12 March at the Minute Maid Park in Houston, USA - home of the Houston Astros baseball team.

"The 2009 seminar, the eighth in our annual series of safety seminars and will encompass small group discussion sessions - always productive at these events – as well as formal presentations," explains IMCA's Technical Director, Jane Bugler. "Indeed, as in previous years, the event will feature a mix of presentations and discussion, together with a safety share fair where contractors can display and discuss posters and other materials relating to their own successful safety initiatives.

"This will be the first major IMCA event in the region since 2003," she adds. "We hope to build on the growth and success of our Americas Deepwater Section meetings, which have seen increasing participation from a growing membership and oil company clients. Indeed, it is not unknown for organisations to join IMCA in order to benefit from our highly relevant and topical safety seminars – after all, we are all well aware of the 'zero incidents' goal that is the industry's 'holy grail'.

IMCA represents over 500 organisations involved in offshore, marine and underwater engineering in more than 50 countries. Over 120 delegates, people actively involved in ensuring safe operations on and offshore in the marine contracting industry, attended the IMCA 2008 safety seminar in Abu Dhabi with its theme 'Safety excellence in a global environment'. Previous safety seminars have been held at sporting stadia in the UK and in The Netherlands.

Further details on the event will be provided to IMCA members in due course. Details on previous safety seminars can be found at www.imca-int.com/sel/events/ or from events@imca-int.com.

4. WHO'S ON THE MOVE?

4.a) APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR AT J+S LTD

J+S Ltd have announced the appointment of Henry Warren as a Non-Executive Director of the Company. Henry will be appointed Chairman of the Company in November when Alan Hayman, the current Chairman, plans to retire from the Board.

Henry is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland and began his career with Touche Ross in Glasgow before moving to Plymouth.

In 1987, Henry joined DML and served as Financial Director of the Company for over 20 years. During Henry's tenure as Finance Director the business grew through both acquisition and organic growth to a £500m turnover level at the time of its sale in 2007 to Babcock Marine. Henry was instrumental in developing it from a pure Naval Dockyard into a broadly based business including a Super Yacht Division and two acquired technical consultancies Frazer Nash and LSC.

Henry retired from DML in 2008 and has now embarked on developing a Non-Executive portfolio with J+S Ltd as his second appointment.

For further information please contact David Jeffries, Managing Director on Tel: +44 (0)1271 337508

5. JOB POSTINGS

5.a) REGIONAL SALES MANAGER REQUIRED BY SONARDYNE ASIA PTE LTD, SINGAPORE

Sonardyne are designers and manufacturers of underwater acoustic positioning navigation and communications systems mainly for the offshore oil and gas markets. Sonardyne Asia is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sonardyne International Limited (UK). In line with the global company growth, Sonardyne Asia is looking for suitable candidate for the position of Regional Sales Manager.

Responsibilities: Maintain and support existing key customer accounts plus identify and develop new opportunities for the promotion of Sonardyne products and services within the regional markets; Actively work with the central Sales/Marketing teams and Channel Managers with regards to specific new products requirement and launch activities within S E Asia region; Provide onshore and offshore operational support where and when appropriate; Management of all sales and marketing activities for all Sonardyne products in an Asian territory and other areas as assigned by the management.

Applicants should have: Technical sales background; Capable of managing complex sales with ability to sell at all levels within customer organisations; Strong communication and presentation skills with a high level of motivation and the ability to multitask; Willingness to travel often in the region; Fluent English communication skills

Excellent salary and benefits package available to qualified candidates. Send a cover letter and resume to mary.wong@sonardyne.com For more information on Sonardyne, please visit website www.sonardyne.com