

# oceanbuzz!

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

This **FREE OF CHARGE** newsletter is brought to you by the organisers of the Ocean Business event [www.oceanbusiness.com](http://www.oceanbusiness.com). It is **FREE** to subscribe to and **FREE** to include your news articles. Send us your news and info on events so we can spread the word to the Ocean Technology industry. To add your colleagues to the Oceanbuzz circulation list simply email their full contact details to: [info@intelligentexhibitions.com](mailto:info@intelligentexhibitions.com) or go to the Oceanbuzz website [www.oceanbuzz.org](http://www.oceanbuzz.org) where you can also download past issues as well.

**OCEANBUZZ ISSUE 232 – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

## **INDEX**

### **1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS**

- a)Prevco opens branch in UK
- b)High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature Drifters for UK Met Office
- c)Chelsea Sensor equipment to be fitted to French ferry to progress WaveSentry sea-state forecasting project
- d)Ten more Falcons to Russia
- e)Acteon companies join forces to supply advanced Norwegian drilling riser
- f)OceanSENSE reports a 100% success rate

### **2. EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS**

- a)L3-Klein Side Scan Sonar Training – June 2012
- b)National Hyperbaric Centre Subsea Training Courses for 2012
- c)REMUS/HUGIN AUV Users Conference – June 2012
- d)Risk and impact in Marine Operations Conference, Rio de Janeiro 21 – 22 March 2012

### **3. WHO'S ON THE MOVE?**

- a) Coastline Surveys announce new appointments at their Geotechnical Facility in Lowestoft
- b) Sandy Harper joins the National Hyperbaric Centre

### **4. JOB POSTINGS**

- a) Hydrography Technology Lead
- b) Four new positions at Swathe Services Ltd

## **1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS**

### **1.a) PREVCO OPENS BRANCH IN UK**

Some exciting things are happening at PREVCO subsea housings, as they move into 2012, and in particular the opening of their new European Branch based in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. As a U.S. based company, they have been getting an increasing number of enquiries from overseas and the opening of the UK branch is a direct response to increased demand. The aim is to replicate the facility in Arizona, USA so that they can eventually design, fabricate, test and ship our products to the European market, directly from the UK.

For more information please contact [www.prevco.com](http://www.prevco.com)

### **1.b) HIGH RESOLUTION SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE DRIFTERS FOR UK MET OFFICE**

RS Aqua Ltd (Hampshire, UK) report that they have just completed the supply of 9 new generation, model SVP(2) Drifter Buoys fitted with high resolution sea surface temperature sensors (HRSST) to the UK Met Office. The SVP drifters are manufactured by Met Ocean Data Systems Ltd, Nova Scotia, Canada and this enhancement requirement was established via a joint pilot project by the Data Buoy Co-operation Panel (DBCP) and the Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature (GHRST). Further information on the project can be found at [www.ghrsst.org/documents/q/category/argo-dbcop-and-sot/](http://www.ghrsst.org/documents/q/category/argo-dbcop-and-sot/) for more general information visit [www.jcommops.org/dbcp/](http://www.jcommops.org/dbcp/)

The SVP(2) Drifter Buoy hosts a number of optional ocean and met sensors and feeds data reports back to the user via the bi-directional Iridium satellite network using the latest Short Burst Data technology. A standard, time proven drogue causes the SVP to drift with ocean currents and an on-board GPS module tracks the drifter's location to +/- 500m. Visit the latest news page at [www.rsaqua.co.uk](http://www.rsaqua.co.uk) for further SVP(2) information.

### **1.c) CHELSEA SENSOR EQUIPMENT TO BE FITTED TO FRENCH FERRY TO PROGRESS WAVESENTRY SEA-STATE FORECASTING PROJECT**

Novel sensors, provided by the Chelsea Technologies Group are to be fitted to a cross-channel ferry to collect vessel motion data as part of the WaveSentry project which is being managed by Marine South East. This motion data will be processed to derive certain indirect sea-state measurements which will be merged with a range of other data feeds within the WaveSentry sea-state measurement and forecasting system.

As part of the WaveSentry project the sensor box, provided by Chelsea Technologies, will be fitted to a Transmanche ferry, the Seven Sisters, which crosses the channel daily. The data collected from the ship will be relayed to the shore and analysed using software from WaveSentry collaborators, QinetiQ to infer the sea state from the ships motion throughout the crossing.

The data collected will be logged against the GPS position of the ship and will be merged with additional data streams by HR Wallingford, to enable much more accurate 'nowcasting' and forecasting of sea state including wave height, period, direction and steepness.

This information should greatly assist the many marine operations (such as shipping, offshore oil platforms, maintenance boats and renewable energy projects) who are dependent on high quality information on sea-state for economic and safety decision making. Sea-state information currently available, is based only on atmospheric/ocean models and lacks sufficient temporal and spatial resolution. Wave conditions are always changing and can vary tremendously over just 100km, or over a period of a few hours. Operators need to know what current conditions are before commencing an operation.

For more information please contact [www.chelsea.co.uk/marineapps/sea-state-forecasting](http://www.chelsea.co.uk/marineapps/sea-state-forecasting)

## **1.d) TEN MORE SAAB SEAYE FALCON ROVs TO RUSSIA**

Ten more Saab Seaeye Falcon ROVs have been ordered by Russia's JSC Tetis Pro, bringing the total sold into the Russian Federation to 24 – and more are planned. Most of the ten ordered will be used for civil defence emergencies and dealing with the consequences of natural disasters. They will be installed aboard search and rescue vessels, ready to survey for objects using multi-beam sonar.

Two will also go to EMERCOM – the Russian Centre of Preparation to be deployed aboard a Russian Naval vessel.

With over 260 Falcon ROVs in use around the globe, its success has come from being small enough to manhandle into the water, yet powerful enough to hold steady in strong cross currents and operate tooling of all kinds. Its trusted design is packed with technological innovations such as intelligent 'plug-and-go' electronics for rapid role-change during operations – which means that up to 128 different devices can be fitted, including extra cameras, lights, tracking system, manipulator and sonar, plus the option of adding special tooling on a removable skid.

Half of the Falcons ordered by Tetis this time round are the Falcon DR, deep rated to 1000 metres, and others the standard 300 metre rated Falcon. For more information please visit [www.seaeye.com](http://www.seaeye.com)

## **1.e) ACTEON COMPANIES JOIN FORCES TO SUPPLY ADVANCED NORWEGIAN DRILLING RISER**

Claxton Engineering Services Ltd, an Acteon company, is supplying a Norwegian client with a complete subsea drilling riser package enhanced by services and equipment drawn from around the Acteon Group. The 7000-psi, 24-in. riser will be used to drill one well and two completion wells in 135 m of water: the deepest water in the Norwegian North Sea tackled to date.

Comprising riser joints, custom flange connectors, vortex-induced-vibration suppression fairings, a bespoke tension system and a proprietary Claxton NT2 handling tool, the riser system is the result of close collaboration between Claxton and several sister Acteon companies: 2H Offshore, Subsea Riser Products and Pulse Structural Monitoring. Subsea Riser Products is supplying the custom flanges for the riser. These have a smaller diameter than standard API flanges and offer improved make-up times and fatigue characteristics.

In addition, Pulse Structural Monitoring will provide a complete riser monitoring system that will give the client real-time fatigue, bending and stress monitoring data to help determine how the riser is performing. This has obvious safety and operational benefits.

The new 7000-psi riser will be used for 240 days and is due to be run for the first time in early 2012. Please contact Nick Marriott at [nick.marriott@claxtonengineering.com](mailto:nick.marriott@claxtonengineering.com) for more information.

## **1.f) OCEANSENSE REPORTS A 100% SUCCESS RATE**

OceanTools Ltd reports a 100% success rate with their OceanSENSE subsea leak detection system. With over 50 jobs completed worldwide and 13 more recently awarded the system has developed a powerful market leading reputation in offshore circles.

The technologically advanced OceanSENSE offers many distinct operational advantages. Traditional ROV mounted 'black light' systems require ROV lights to be turned off when carrying out detection operations. OceanSENSE is described as a 'bright light system' that enables ROV pilots to complete operations with lights on at all times resulting in decreased risk and faster detection times.

OceanSENSE employs a comprehensive two stage survey when searching for leaks. Operating at around 50 times beyond the light receiving capability of the human eye, the system employs intelligent photomultiplier electronics coupled with very high intensity LEDs. These combined technologies may detect dye inserted in fluids in parts per billion of water. The operator interface alerts the pilot to the presence of the target fluid via both screen and audio alarms. This enables the pilot to visually home in on the location of the leak which is clearly identifiable as a fluorescing cloud.

Significantly smaller than all other leak detection systems, OceanSENSE is available in ROV mounted Single Wavelength and Diver-held versions with Micro, AUV and Dual wave length versions in development. For product information please visit [www.oceantools.eu](http://www.oceantools.eu)

## **2. EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS**

### **2.a) L3-KLEIN SIDE SCAN SONAR TRAINING – JUNE 2012**

L-3 Klein Associates, Inc. a leader in Side Scan Sonar equipment is proud to announce the 2012 Side Scan Sonar Operations and Maintenance Training Seminars. The three day seminars will be conducted at L-3 Klein's Facility in Salem, NH. The training will include 2 days of classroom instruction and 1 day of on the water training; lunch will be provided daily.

The spring training session will be held from June 5-7, 2012. Space is limited and sold on a "first come, first serve" basis. Please contact Carol Morrissey at [Carol.Morrissey@L-3com.com](mailto:Carol.Morrissey@L-3com.com) or via telephone +001 603-893-6131 Ext. 272 to register today.

For additional information, please feel free contact us or check out our web site at [www.L-3Klein.com](http://www.L-3Klein.com)

### **2.b) NATIONAL HYPERBARIC CENTRE SUBSEA TRAINING COURSES FOR 2012**

The National Hyperbaric Centre has recently published its training course dates for 2012. Several new courses were added to the portfolio in 2011, including the now pre-requisite Client Representative approved by OGP, and the forefront Dive System Auditing & Assurance courses.

In 2011 training courses were run in South American, Middle East, Asia and all over Europe and courses can now be run at locations around the world to suit client's needs and schedules. For full course dates visit the NHC training website, [www.nhctraining.com](http://www.nhctraining.com)

### **2.c) REMUS/HUGIN AUV USERS CONFERENCE – JUNE 2012**

Kongsberg Maritime and its subsidiary Hydroid, Inc., a leading manufacturer of autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs), has announced a joint AUV user conference to be held at the Villa Marigola in Lerici, Italy, from 24th to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The event will give customers the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences in order to optimize their AUVs.

The three-day conference, which focuses on Kongsberg's HUGIN and Hydroid's REMUS AUVs, will include informational presentations, hands-on exercises, updates on products, new trends in the market, Q&A periods and networking sessions.

The 2012 event comes in the wake of a highly successful REMUS/HUGIN user conference in October 2010. The 2010 conference in San Diego brought together nearly 100 AUV users from nine countries to discuss topics including the 2009 search for Amelia Earheart's plane and emerging AUV applications such as pipeline inspection and environmental monitoring.

For more information please visit [www.hydroid.com](http://www.hydroid.com) or [www.km.kongsberg.com](http://www.km.kongsberg.com)

### **2.d) RISK AND IMPACT IN MARINE OPERATIONS, RIO DE JANEIRO, 21 – 22 MARCH 2012**

The 2012 International Marine Contractors Association's (IMCA) Safety and Environment Seminar, with its theme 'Risk and impact in marine operations' (Rio de Janeiro; 21-22 March) will focus to a large extent on process safety/asset integrity challenges in marine construction.

There will be keynote presentations from Raphael Neves Moura of the Brazilian regulator ANP, who will address the seminar's theme; and Jane Cutler, CEO of the Australian oil and gas regulator NOPSA who will speak on 'Design a facility rather than build a vessel'.

As well as presentations, the seminar will include sessions on learning from incidents and round table discussions. And, as has become traditional it will feature a safety share fair. Delegates will be encouraged

to bring a display of their company's safety promotional materials to the event, enabling those present to review and discuss successful safety initiatives with each other.

Networking always plays a key role at IMCA events – there will be a registration drinks reception on 20 March between 18.00 and 21.00hrs and a seminar dinner on 21 March. Further information on the Seminar and on membership of the association is available at [www.imca-int.com](http://www.imca-int.com)

### **3. WHO'S ON THE MOVE?**

#### **3.a) COASTLINE SURVEYS ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS AT THEIR GEOTECHNICAL FACILITY IN LOWESTOFT**

In line with their Strategic plan and in response to the diverse commercial demands of the business, the Coastline head count continues to increase. Coastline Surveys Ltd have carefully selected the following personnel for their expertise and the ability to complement the already strong team, who unite in their respect for the strong position gained from the past twenty years in business whilst maintaining a healthy awareness of latest techniques, technology and practice.

Coastline Surveys are pleased to announce the appointment of **Paul Smith as Geotechnical Manager**. Paul has extensive experience in field of senior level project management, specialising in marine Geotechnical Site Investigations and Vessel Operations. Paul has previously worked for Svitzer/Fugro Survey Ltd, Fugro Alluvial and Seajacks.

Tasked with directing the continued expansion of the Geotechnical Department in Lowestoft, Paul will manage a wide-ranging portfolio of geotechnical survey operations from contract award to final delivery, manage develop and mentor the geotechnical team and optimise operational performance, ensuring that the QHSE culture is maintained to an exceptional standard.

Coastline Surveys are pleased to announce the appointment of **Rob Hill as Geotechnical Technician**. Rob has a diverse background, encompassing Science Engineering and Telecoms, initially in the RAF and later in outside industry, this has provided him with extensive project management expertise. Rob is ideally suited to the role drawing on his strengths, being analytical, practical and creative; he has already introduced innovative improvements to some of the Laboratory processes, enabling Coastline to offer a more efficient and professional service.

Rob is currently operational on MV FlatHolm, he is also proving to be an excellent team player, his example and contributions to Coastline Surveys and the Geotechnical Team will make the Company stronger as it rises to the next level.

Coastline Surveys welcomes **Andrew Waterhouse as Assistant Geologist**, the latest member of the team, Andrew has recently graduated from Bangor University where he read Applied Marine Geosciences and is keen to improve his knowledge and experience in the field of Geotechnical Engineering. Andrew has settled in well and has proved himself an extremely competent member of the team.

#### **3.b) SANDY HARPER JOINS THE NATIONAL HYPERBARIC CENTRE'S AS THEIR NEW DIVING SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY & CONSULTING MANAGER**

Sandy, who has an extensive background in diving system auditing and assurance as well as consulting, has joined the NHC to focus on expanding the Consulting & Auditing services which the NHC already provide. Sandy has been working with the NHC over the past year, establishing NHC's Diving System Auditing and Assurance training course and developing DiveCert, a diving systems certification software package.

Sandy has spent several years in the Subsea Industry, with two years as Diving Technical Manager for Integrated Subsea Services as well as two years as a Diving Technical Consultant for Atlantis Technical Solutions. For more information on NHC please visit their website at [www.nationalhyperbariccentre.com](http://www.nationalhyperbariccentre.com)

## 4. JOB POSTINGS

### 4.a) HYDROGRAPHY TECHNOLOGY LEAD

£31,518 - £39,878 pa - Based in Southampton

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) is a world-class organisation committed to preventing loss of life, continuously improving maritime safety and protecting the marine environment.

Amongst its many responsibilities, the MCA administers the UK Civil Hydrography Programme and as such, is responsible for gathering hydrographic survey data to update the nation's nautical charts and publications.

In recognising the rapid technological advances taking place in the field of hydrography, the MCA is recruiting a Hydrographic Technology Lead who will play a key role in the implementation of our hydrographic strategy.

You'll provide the necessary knowledge, experience and management in developing new technical initiatives in support of a national seabed survey programme. A large part of your work will be in the application of geographic information and seabed visualisation systems to support the prioritisation of hydrographic survey areas on a risk and cost-benefit basis.

You'll be educated to at least first degree level in a discipline with a marine science component and will have relevant practical experience of marine GIS modelling/data visualisation and hydrographic survey operations.

The starting salary is £31,518 pa, although a higher figure may be offered to an exceptional candidate and will depend on relevant qualifications and experience.

Besides the rewarding nature of the job itself, the benefits that come with it are excellent. The package includes 30 days' holiday a year plus 10.5 public and privilege days, attractive pension options, flexible working and other policies to enable a good work/life balance, including beneficial childcare arrangements. You'll also benefit from our commitment to nurturing and developing talent.

For an informal discussion about this post please contact André Cocuccio on 023 8032 9341.

To find out more information about this post and to apply online please visit [www.dft.gov.uk/mca](http://www.dft.gov.uk/mca) or if you have any further queries please contact our Shared Service Centre on 0844 892 0343 or email [sscrecruitment@dftssc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sscrecruitment@dftssc.gsi.gov.uk) Closing date: 2nd February 2012.

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency is an equal opportunity employer.

### 4.b) FOUR NEW POSITIONS AT SWATHE SERVICES LTD

Swathe Services Ltd is a group of companies based in the UK and Australia specialising in providing hydrographic personnel and equipment to the international hydrographic and oceanographic marine industry. As part of their continued worldwide growth they are currently seeking a number of experienced hydrographic surveyors to join their team both in the UK and Australia.

Swathe Services recognises and values its employees and offers a clearly defined path for career progression coupled with continuous training and career development to the right candidates.

The UK division currently has four new positions supplying bathymetric support to an international client base and will require adaptability, flexibility and a hands-on approach to delivering exceptional hydrographic support services to their clients.

You will be qualified to degree level in a survey related discipline, ideally with an IHO Category A qualification and a minimum of 2 years field experience including multibeam acquisition and processing. You should be confident in mobilising and trouble shooting a range of survey equipment. You should have a flexible approach to working hours, locations and conditions and can expect to be working up to 180 days a year offshore combined with some office based processing work from time to time.

Please send your CV and covering letter to [andy.johnson@swathe-services.com](mailto:andy.johnson@swathe-services.com) by the 31st January 2012

Swathe Services (Australia) Pty Ltd is undergoing a period of sustained growth in the Southern Hemisphere and is now looking for two more experienced hydrographic surveyors to join their busy team. Applicants should have a BSc in a survey related discipline along with 3-5 year's experience including multibeam acquisition and processing.

You will be required to spend up to 180 days on site as well as some office based processing from time to time. All applicants must be eligible to work in Australia. Send your CV and covering letter to [neil.hewitt@swathe-services.com](mailto:neil.hewitt@swathe-services.com) by the 31.01.12. Further details can be found at [www.swathe-services.com](http://www.swathe-services.com)