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1. GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEET

Last week, The Science and Technology Committee (appointed by the House of Commons) met to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Office of Science and Innovation and some related matters.

Present at the meeting were Ian Gallett, Executive Secretary, Society for Underwater Technology (SUT), Dr Lesley Thompson, Director, Research and Innovation, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Dr Ralph Rayner, Vice President, Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) and Richard Burt, Member, Executive Committee, Association of Marine Scientific Industries (AMSI).

The inquiry focused on the organisation and funding of UK marine science in the polar and non-polar regions; the role of the UK internationally, and international collaboration in marine science; support for marine science, including provision and development of technology and engineering; the state of the UK research and skills base underpinning marine science and provision and skills to maintain and improve the UK's position in marine science; use of marine sites of special scientific interest. It also included a study of how marine science is being used to advance knowledge of the impact of climate change on the oceans. To hear the live discussion go to

<http://www.parliamentlive.tv/Archives/SearchResults.aspx?From=12/06/2007&To=14/06/2007&Where=Cttees&Keywords=oceans>

TRITECH LAUNCH REVOLUTIONARY SONAR AT OCEANS 2007

StarFish is the first of its kind, an all new high definition seabed imaging sonar. Producing near photo-quality images of the seabed it's the smallest towfish of its type on the market.

Since the first seabed imaging sonars were developed, manufacturers have predominantly focused on a cylindrical or torpedo-shaped towfish body. Today they have created a revolutionary, new tow body challenging these old concepts and providing several advantages. The compact design and unique shape dramatically improve the stability of the sonar and with it the quality of the seabed images.

StarFish is truly 'Plug and Play' connecting to your PC or laptop via a USB Port. Trittech will preview StarFish on their stand E7 at Oceans '07 or for further information go to <http://www.tritech.co.uk/news/news-starfish.html>

IMPORTANT NAVY CONTRACT FOR KONGSBERG MARITIME

Kongsberg Maritime and Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace signed the contract for the new Finnish Navy Mine Hunting Vessel program recently. The contract has a value of 114, 8 mill. NOK and include HUGIN 1000 MR autonomous underwater vehicle, EM 710 multibeam echosounder and HIPAP 500 acoustic positioning system, three of each.

Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace act as an integrator of all hydroacoustic products into the tactical system (C2) delivered by Atlas Electronics, Germany. Intermarine, Italy is the shipbuilder and the prime contractor. The first ship is planned to be handed over to the Finnish Navy in 2010.

All the products delivered by Kongsberg Maritime are Commercial Off The Shelf - COTS and represent a new procurement policy we observe in today's defence contracts. To handle the customer needs for continued operation; it is also prepared and agreed on an In Service Support (ISS) contract between the Finnish Navy and Kongsberg Maritime supporting all Kongsberg Maritime products through their life cycle. This is done in the same way we support commercial markets.

This is the first delivery from Kongsberg Maritime subsea division in Horten, where all product lines are represented in the same project, and fully integrated in a common system. The Finnish Navy is the first navy in the world fully integrating a complex mine hunting system like this. This contract is also the first AUV contract in the naval market outside Norway, and as such of major importance. For more information go to <http://www.km.kongsberg.com/>

2. TRAINING, DEMONSTRATION AND EDUCATION

UNDERWATER ROBOT COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS EARTH'S POLAR REGIONS, 22nd – 24th June 2007, USA

From June 22-24, students from around the world will demonstrate their technical prowess with underwater robots for the Sixth Annual International Student ROV Competition. In conjunction with the International Polar Year (IPY), the 2007 competition highlights the Earth's Polar Regions and their impact on global climate, the environment, natural ecosystems, and human societies.

Faced with the same types of challenges as scientists and engineers who work in polar environments, 41 student teams have designed and built underwater robots, for underwater mission tasks that simulate ocean observing, scientific research, and offshore industry operations in polar seas. For more information about the MATE Center and the ROV competition, please visit www.marinetech.org and http://www.marinetech.org/rov_competition/.

STUDENT AUTONOMOUS UNDERWATER CHALLENGE - EUROPE (SAUC-E) 12th – 15th July 2007

Following the success of the first competition of its kind in the UK, the second Student Autonomous Underwater Challenge Europe (SAUC-E) will take place on 12 -15 July 2007 at the Ocean basin tank in Gosport, UK courtesy of QinetiQ. The large marine facility measures 61m x 122m x 5.5m deep, and usually provides the venue for testing manoeuvring models of ships, submarines, submersibles and maritime structures.

Missions for the 2007 event have been developed from the 2006 competition. The vehicles will have to, demonstrate a minimum level of control, locate and mark an optical beacon on the pool floor, correctly identify a specific midwater target, produce and use a map for navigation to the surfacing zone. For further information go to http://www.dstl.gov.uk/news_events/competitions/sauce/07/index.php

3. EVENTS

OCEANS 07 KICKS OFF IN ABERDEEN THIS WEEK

Oceanic experts from around the world will be highlighting the significant challenges facing the marine community at this week's *Oceans '07 Aberdeen* conference this week at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre. The Granite City will be the focus of the global marine community when the very first IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society, OCEANS conference is held in the UK (**June 18-21**).

The conference will be officially opened on **Tuesday, June 19** at 10.30am by Richard Lochhead, MSP, the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment of the Scottish Executive, in his address on "*Marine policy drivers from a Scottish perspective*". "**Marine Challenges: Coastline to Deep Sea**" is the overall theme and will highlight the significant challenges facing marine, subsea, and oceanic engineers in their drive to understand the complexities of the world's oceans. For further information go to www.oceans07ieeeaberdeen.org

OCEAN BUSINESS – PAST EXHIBITORS RETURN ON MASS

The Ocean Business team witnessed a frenzy of excitement last week when this year's exhibitors were clambering over each other to secure premium places at the newly expanded Ocean Business for 2009. 70% of the space that was occupied at the last event has already been sold –all in a matter of days.

Past exhibitors were given an exclusive opportunity to book stands last week and within three minutes of launching - six stands sold and the volume of enquiries continued all week. Versha Carter, Director of Ocean Business stated 'We knew the event was a huge success but even this level of re-booking has taken us by surprise. Ocean Business achieved what it set out to do which was to offer an event that successfully combines business with a full series of social networking opportunities. The fact that our past exhibitors are returning in droves speaks volumes.'

Ocean Business offers a level playing field for companies of all sizes. With a floorplan consisting of relatively small stands, companies of all sizes can be a part of Ocean Business without having to make a huge

investment. Exhibit sales open to the masses this week and the Ocean Business team are confident that the remaining stands will fill up quickly. For more information go to www.oceanbusiness.com

4. WHO'S ON THE MOVE

SONTEK/YSI PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Hakan Erdem has joined SonTek as Director of Operations. Hakan was most recently the head of operations for Teledyne RD Instruments. The previous SonTek Director of Operations, Daryl Slocum, has accepted a promotion to Director of Business Development and Strategic Projects for YSI. John Romeo, who joined SonTek mid-2006, has quickly demonstrated his skills and leadership in the R&D process, has been promoted to Director of Research and Development. John also came to SonTek from Teledyne RD Instruments. With the promotion of John, former R&D Director (and Founder of SonTek) Ramon Cabrera assumes the role of Technical Advisor for YSI reporting to CEO/President, Rick Omlor. Additional information and other product news can be found at www.sontek.com.

5. JOB POSTINGS

OFFSHORE OPERATIONS AT SRD, UK

As part of their continued growth, SRD is seeking to recruit experienced or graduate personnel to support its offshore operations. Applications are encouraged from individuals with an offshore survey background. Candidates with related experience or a science, earth science, mathematical/computing qualification will also be considered. Please send CV and covering letter to: Steve Sansom steve.sansom@srduk.com
www.srduk.com

COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS ESTIMATOR AT FUGRO GEOS LIMITED, UK

The role involves compilation and co-ordination of tenders mainly to clients in the offshore oil & gas industry. Potential requirement to attend client meetings and negotiations anywhere in the world. This vacancy requires a minimum of 4 years experience gained from the marine and offshore environment, initiative, attention to detail, good negotiation and decision making skills. Strong command of both written and spoken English is vital. Familiarity with Windows especially Excel or equivalent is also required. Apply with a CV and covering letter to Mary Smith, HR Assistant, m.smith@geos.com.

VACANCIES AT TSS, UK

TSS (International) Ltd is currently recruiting Design Engineers, CVF Engineer, Production Engineer, Instrument Makers. For further information on any of the above positions, please contact Carolyn Jones, HR Manager for a detailed job specification, email cjones@tss-int.com

PRODUCT SALES ENGINEER, EDGETECH, USA

EdgeTech are looking for candidates with a Physical Science or Engineering Degree with minimum 3-5 years prior experience in technical sales, preferably in government/ military markets to join their team as Product Sales Engineers at their Massachusetts facility. EdgeTech are also looking for Product Engineers, Entry Level Mechanical Engineers and Mechanical Designers, for more information please go to <http://www.edgetech.com/employe.htm>

6. ...AND FINALLY

OCEANOLOGY INTERNATIONAL'S FORMER CEO HONOURED - BOB MUNTON OBE

Former Spearhead Exhibitions Ltd CEO Bob Munton has been awarded an OBE for services to business in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2007. Bob was responsible for Oceanology International from 1982 until 1996 when he appointed Versha Carter as Exhibition Director. Bob also devised and began Oceansp@ce, the pioneer online newsletter for the marine science and ocean technology community. Later he created the defence show DSEi which he ran until his departure from Reed Exhibitions Ltd in January 2006. Together with the former Spearhead Exhibitions management team he is now seeking to re-acquire DSEi and the rest of the defence portfolio of events from Reed Exhibitions which has recently announced its strategic withdrawal from this important sector.

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