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OCEANBUZZ ISSUE 179 – 7th December 2010

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GENERAL OCEAN NEWS

1a.) CUTTING THE COST OF HUNTING SHIPWRECKS

Nearly 100 years after the three-masted schooner, the Hattie Wells, sank in Lake Michigan during heavy weather, it has been filmed by one of the most advanced ROVs of its kind in the world.

A key element of the mission undertaken by a team of marine archaeologists has been to prove the value of using an ROV to document shipwrecks in America's Great Lakes, says Dr Mark Gleason, chief marine scientist and director of education at Great Lakes Naval Memorial and Museum (GLNMM).

By turning to specialist ROV operator, Seaview Systems, they were able to cut the cost usually associated with launching an ROV from a large support vessel by using the compact but highly sophisticated deep-rated Saab Seaeye Falcon DR ROV.

Matthew Cook of Seaview Systems explains that marine archaeology requires the collection of high quality video, still images and environmental and position data of a shipwreck in order to capture the full historical significance of the site. He sees an ROV as representing a very efficient means of collecting this information in a wide range of water depths.

The Hattie Wells project that has included archival research, sidescan survey and ROV dive operations, has brought together representatives from government, private business and educational non-profits. In addition to the GLNMM, these included the Michigan Shipwreck Research Associates (MSRA), National Marine and Underwater Agency (NUMA) sponsored by author Clive Cussler, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Authority (NOAA), and SeaView Systems, Inc.

For more information please contact; Dave Grant Email: dgrant@seaeye.com Tel: +44 (0)1489 898000
Website: www.seaeye.com

1b.) BOWTECH AWARDED MAJOR ROV VISION CONTRACT

Bowtech products ltd has been chosen by SMD and its customer, iTech, to supply all the Cameras, lights and strobes on twenty (with options for up to a further ten) ROV's. This is the largest single order for cameras and lights ever received by Bowtech.

The QX-Ultra work class ROV's were commissioned by iTech (division of subsea 7). For each ROV, Bowtech will supply a surveyor colour zoom camera, an explorer low light level, high Resolution monochrome camera, a I3c-I miniature high resolution colour camera, a LCC miniature High resolution monochrome camera, eight led-3200-ac lamps and a st3k xenon strobe. The Cameras, lights and strobes were chosen after exhaustive tests, extended use and feedback of similar equipment already extensively used by iTech and subsea 7.

To complement the vision system order, iTech also chose for SMD to fit the new QX-Ultra work Class ROV's with Seacon 55 underwater connectors. Bowtech are an exclusive agent for Seacon Europe who manufactures these connectors at their great Yarmouth base. Seacon 55 connectors were chosen by iTech because of their improved quality and reliability over traditionally used ROV Connectors manufactured overseas.

For more information please contact: Mike Winstanley Email: bowtech@bowtech.co.uk Tel: +44 (0)1224 772345 Website: www.bowtech.co.uk

1c.) 'SAFE USE OF ELECTRICITY UNDER WATER' - CODE OF PRACTICE PUBLISHED BY IMCA

Preventing the dangerous hazards which may arise from the use of electricity under water is dealt with in 'Code of Practice for the Safe Use of Electricity Under Water', a seminal publication from the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA). The Code covers all types of electrical equipment used by a diver - employed for his benefit, either under his control, or under the control of the diving support team.

Printed copies of the Code are available for £10.00 plus VAT for IMCA members, and £20.00 + VAT for non-members (plus delivery charge where applicable) from www.imca-int.com/publications and publications@imca-int.com.

For more information please contact Email: imca@imca-int.com Tel: +44 (0)20 7824 5520 Website: www.imca-int.com

1d.) NEW ECHOSCOPE AVAILABILITY IN EUROPE AND ASIA

A recent order placed by Nautikaris BV completes a trio of Coda Echoscope® purchases by some of CodaOctopus' key international distributors. As well as Cadden (France) and Sea and Land Technologies (Singapore and Malaysia), Nautikaris (Netherlands) last month confirmed an order for an Echoscope 3D real-time sonar.

Whilst Nautikaris has an immediate requirement for the Echoscope, with a contract for Fugro, the 3D real-time sonar system will become a prominent feature in the company's equipment portfolio. Confident of strong demand for the unparalleled 3D visualisation provided by the Echoscope, Nautikaris is now able to offer a completely new service to its customers, especially those in the dredging, hydrographic survey and harbour authority sectors.

Evaluation of the Echoscope included two 2-week trials in the port of Ijmuiden and in the province of Zeeland (Netherlands), large parts of which lie below sea level. The trials were organised by Rijkswaterstaat, the Dutch national water management agency, and involved many key industry members including representatives from Fugro. The Echoscope was deployed to survey dams and canals, to locate wrecks and to visualise complex underwater structures and materials.

For more information please contact: Debra Barker Email: debra.barker@codaoctopus.com Tel: +44 (0)131 561 1513 Website: www.codaoctopus.com

1e.) A TOWERING ACHIEVEMENT FOR IHC EB

There were celebrations at IHC Engineering Business (IHC EB) this week, when after three years of hard work, skill and dedication, the J-Lay tower designed and built for energy infrastructure giant Saipem was successfully raised to its vertical operating position from the deck of the Saipem FDS2 vessel.

The pipelay tower now stands 65m tall above the deck of the new build vessel in Samsung Heavy Industries shipyard in South Korea. Following the design and build of the system in the North East, it was shipped to Korea during the summer and, since its arrival, a dedicated team from IHC EB has been working closely with Saipem and Samsung to prepare and install the tower onto the new Field Development Ship.

For more information please contact: Vicky Mason Email: team@engb.com Tel: +44 1434 682 800 Website: www.engb.com

1f.) FIRST REMUS/HUGIN AUV USERS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) users from around the globe came together for the first REMUS/HUGIN AUV Users Conference October 4-8 at the Catamaran Resort & Spa in San Diego, CA. The conference, presented by Kongsberg Maritime, its subsidiary, Hydroid, Inc. and Kongsberg Underwater Technology, Inc. (KUTI), was designed to give customers the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences and get more out of their AUVs.

Nearly one hundred REMUS and HUGIN AUV users from nine countries participated in the event, which included informational presentations, hands-on exercises and updates on products and new trends in the market, followed by question and answer periods and networking sessions.

Conference presentations focused on a variety of topics, including the role of AUVs in the 2009 search for Amelia Earheart's plane and emerging AUV applications such as pipeline inspection and environmental monitoring.

For more information please contact: Amy Erickson Email: aerickson@greenoughcom.com Tel: +1 617 275 6512 Website: www.hydroidinc.com

1g.) VERIPOS LAUNCHES NEW MOBILE UNIT

Veripos, a leading worldwide supplier of GNSS precise positioning solutions to the offshore industry, has extended hardware support options for its range of services providing metre to decimetre-level accuracies with introduction of a new integrated mobile unit utilising proprietary algorithms, the LD5.

The ruggedised unit is available in a variety of configurations, from a basic L-band demodulator to a fully integrated mobile positioning sensor with demodulator and multi-frequency GNSS receiver. It can also be easily upgraded to meet differing user configuration requirements.

Other main features include an internal SD card for logging all data, enabling any required post-processing and post-mission analysis. The system can also be used to output raw GNSS measurements and Veripos augmentation data in RTCM format, both of which can be subsequently used by external processing or quality control software such as Veripos Verify QC; data can be output via three isolated serial ports in addition to a USB or an Ethernet port.

Installation and set-up of the LD5 is simple and straightforward using its integral colour display and intuitive menu, with the display also providing valuable real-time position and status information. The system is specifically designed for a wide range of applications including hydrographic and offshore surveying, dredging, offshore construction, seismic exploration and dynamic positioning.

For more information please contact Walter Steedman: Email: walter.steedman@veripos.com Tel: +44 (0)1224 56749 Website: www.veripos.com

1f.) INNOVATIVE SEAFLOOR OBSERVER SYSTEM DEVELOPED BY SIDUS SOLUTIONS LLC

Sidus Solutions LLC of San Diego, California has developed the innovative Seafloor Observer system, featuring remote positioning, lighting, video and still photography through a single Ethernet cable at depths up to 3000 meters. The system shown was recently supplied to a major offshore communications corporation and will be deployed fourth quarter 2010.

Traditionally, most deep-water video imaging systems have required additional hardware, such as a separate junction bottle or subsea node to distribute video and telemetry signals via Ethernet. Where previous solutions have also required several software packages to interface with various imaging components, the Seafloor Observer is controlled via a single Ethernet cable, from a single console through an intuitively laid out Graphical User Interface (GUI). Additionally, this system allows other operators at additional remote sites to control all functions through a web interface – without the need for any special hardware or software installed at the remote site.

For more information please contact: Email info@sidus-solutions.com Tel: +1 619 275 5533 Website: www.sidus-solutions.com

1h.) EPOCH LAUNCHED BY OMM

Offshore Marine Management, subsea cable specialists, recently announced the launch of their in-house developed EPOCH (Enhanced Project & Offshore Cable History) suite. The marine cable based and O&M software solution provides live cable/ survey vessel data during offshore project operations via a client tailored web viewer. This provides the wind farm operator, Marine Coordinator, cable Installation/ trenching/ inspection client with a total solution to manage wind farm/ submarine cable project past, current and future events/ requirements and offshore operations.

The bespoke web based software solution has been developed by OMM's survey and software department in conjunction with MariSoft (Cairo, Egypt). OMM are supported by MariSoft for all their data processing, digital video and charting software, GIS and bespoke software solutions/ programming requirements.

For more information please contact: Arron Burrows Email: arronb@offshoremm.com Tel: +44 844 9210001 Website: www.offshoremm.com

1i.) ABPmer AND ARCHIPELAGO LAUNCH COASTAL ADAPTATION COMMUNICATION SERVICE

ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd (ABPmer) is working with Archipelago to provide visualisation and engagement tools to help people understand the meaning of coastal change and adaptation so that they can fully participate in the future planning of their coasts.

An example of this exciting communication method is available at:

<http://www.abpmer.net/video/medmerryrealignment.htm>

The combined offer includes the mapping of changing coastlines, modelling of adaptive management options, 3D visualisations, animations and fly-throughs that can be provided as a hi-definition DVD, online streaming video, desktop video presentations, and fully interactive learning tools.

For more information please contact: Tracey Hewett Email: thewett@abpmer.co.uk Tel:+44 (0) 23 80 711 844 Website: www.abpmer.co.uk

1j.) IEEE OCEANIC ENGINEERING SOCIETY ELECTS FELLOW

OES recognises Donald E. Barrick as a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The grade of Fellow recognises unusual distinction in the profession and shall be conferred only by invitation of the Board of Directors upon a person of outstanding and extraordinary qualifications and experience in IEEE designated fields (including electrical engineering, electronics, computer engineering and computer sciences, and the allied branches of engineering and related arts and sciences), who has made important individual contributions to one or more of these fields, that have been reflected in an improved quality of life for society.

Dr. Barrick is the Founder, President and Principal Engineer of CODAR Ocean Systems, Ltd. (COS). Through his career he has focused on development of compact low-frequency radar systems with novel waveforms for cost-effective remote sensing, leading to several U.S. patents. Recent technology advances he has spearheaded within COS involve buoy-based bistatic expansion of SeaSonde coastal coverage; low-power, compact UHF bistatic radars for river flow gaging; and a compact skywave HF radar design that can map ocean surface conditions to 4000 km.

For more information please contact: Email: elcreed@ieee.org Tel: +1 800 678 4333 Website: www.oceanicengineering.org

EVENT, TRAINING & DEMONSTRATION NEWS

2a.) MARINE MANUFACTURER'S BREAKFAST CLUB, 25 JANUARY 2011, SOUTHAMPTON, U.K;

On the 25 January 2011 the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton (NOC) will be hosting the next in its series of Marine Manufacturer's 'Breakfast Club' meetings.

On the 1 April 2010 the National Oceanography Centre was formed by bringing together into a single institution Natural Environment Research Council managed activity at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton and the Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory in Liverpool. At this Breakfast Club meeting Prof Gwyn Griffiths will give an introduction to the recently formed Ocean Technology and Engineering group (OTE) that he leads. OTE is part of the directorate of Science and Technology within NOC. OTE is based across both the Southampton and the Liverpool sites and is the largest technology research and development group supporting UK marine science. OTE has capabilities across five areas, Autonomous Systems, Sensors, Remote Sea Level, Coastal and Shelf Seas and Mechanical Engineering. Gwyn will give an overview of the group and there will also be opportunities for discussion with OTE staff from across both sites.

Breakfast will be served from 0830 with the presentation beginning at approximately 0915. The rest of the time is available for industry to meet and network with NOC staff and take part in opportunistic discussions, whilst enjoying breakfast and a coffee.

The Breakfast Club is free to attend and meets twice yearly, alternating with the Marine Measurement Forum. If you would like to attend this event please contact Aidan Thorn (adft@noc.soton.ac.uk) for registration details.

For more information please contact: Aidan Thorn Email: adft@noc.soton.ac.uk Tel: +44 (0)23 80 596 095 Website: www.noc.soton.ac.uk

WHO'S ON THE MOVE?

3a.) NEW HIRE STRENGTHENS OFFSHORE MARINE'S POSITION IN OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Subsea cable specialist, Offshore Marine Management (OMM) has strengthened its position in operation and maintenance with the recruitment of industry specialist, Stephen Bolton to the newly created position of Director of Operations and Maintenance.

Stephen has more than 10 years' experience at the forefront of the emerging renewable energy market, in both the onshore and offshore wind sectors. Uniquely he has worked across the industry, from development through construction to operations and asset management, where he has chosen to specialise.

His background includes his recent work as Offshore Operations Implementation Manager at RWE Innogy where he established one of the industry's first dedicated teams to focus on the operations and maintenance methodology for large far shore wind farms on a portfolio basis. On establishing the strategy, he was responsible for its implementation on the Gwynt y Mor and Nord See Ost projects, among others.

OMM General Manager, Rob Grimmond said Stephen's background in offshore operations and maintenance strategy, particularly in relation to the design and specification of effective support and access assets, will add significant value to the company as it progresses its strategy to broaden the support and services it can offer to its clients.

Stephen has been actively involved with several flagship wind energy projects across the stages of their development including North Hoyle, the UK's first offshore wind farm, Lynn and Inner Dowsing, Barrow and recently completed Thanet.

For more information about Offshore Marine Management, please visit the website: www.offshorem.com
For additional information please contact; Stephen Bolton Email: stephenb@offshorem.com Tel: +44 (0)117 370 1041 Website: www.offshorem.com

3b.) ATLANTAS MARINE APPOINTS NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Atlantas Marine Ltd, supplier of ship's bridge equipment and underwater inspection systems, recently announced their new management appointment. Darren Comben joins Atlantis Marine as Business Development Manager.

Darren brings with him a wealth of experience gained within the Maritime Sector that will help sustain and build upon the growth that Atlantis Marine has enjoyed within recent years.

For more information please contact: Darren Comben Email: djc@atlantasmarine.com Tel: +44 (0) 1935 426000 Website: www.atlantasmarine.com

3c.) JESPER HOEJDAL JOINS R2SONIC AS SR. HYDROGRAPHIC SUPPORT ENGINEER

R2Sonic recently announced that Mr Jesper Hoejdal has accepted contract position as Sr. Hydrographic Support Engineer.

Jesper has over 35 years of professional maritime experience and has been a Hydrographic Surveyor since 1988. After graduation with IHO Cat A Certificate from the Royal Navy Hydrographic School in Plymouth UK in 1991, Jesper became a Naval Officer, where he was Commanding Officer for Danish Hydrographic Survey Vessels in Denmark and Greenland. Jesper is currently founder and Managing Director of HydroCharting, a Survey Project Consultancy and Hydrographic training and support firm.

As Sr. Hydrographic Support Engineer, Jesper will be based in Denmark and provide support for R2Sonic growing Customer base and Distributors throughout Europe. HydroCharting will continue as independent project consultancy, providing additional value to clients and vendors alike.

Jesper provides considerable knowledge and experience using a range of multibeam systems and peripheral equipment. The combined expert level capabilities and experience that both Jesper Hoejdal and

Charles Brennan bring to R2Sonic Support is among the highest in the Industry and builds upon their goal to provide the most compelling value to Customers in all facets of our business.

Jesper Hoejdal can be contacted on Email: jesper@r2sonic.com Tel: +45 4377 4301 Mobile: +45 22 92 15 81 Website: www.r2sonic.com

3d.) KEITH WALLACE JOINS TECHWORKS MARINE

To support an expanding team at TechWorks Marine, Keith Wallace has been appointed as their new Business Development and Sales Manager. Based in Northern Ireland, Keith brings a wealth of knowledge from the metocean data acquisition sector gained in his previous post as the metocean technical leader within Halcrow Group Limited. Keith has comprehensive international experience with project experience in the Americas, Caribbean, Europe, Middle East, Far East and Australasia. In his current role, Keith is responsible for managing equipment sales and rental, and further developing the business in the area of metocean data acquisition. With a new presence in the UK, TechWorks Marine continues to extend its reach into areas of oceanographic research, aquaculture, marine renewables and offshore infrastructure.

Keith Wallace can be contacted on Email: kwallace@techworks.ie Tel: + 2890 997 675 Mobile: + 353 833 951 766 Website: www.techworks.ie

JOB POSTINGS

4a.) SYSTEMS SOFTWARE TESTER / TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER

Coda Octopus Products Limited designs, manufactures, sells and supports systems and software for the marine survey industry. A vacancy has arisen for a Systems Software Tester / Technical Support Engineer at their Edinburgh office.

The ideal candidate will have a BSc Hons - First Class or 2:1 in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Maths and Computing or other Engineering discipline. Possessing excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work well within a team, the successful applicant will have problem solving and creativity skills, honesty and integrity, an eagerness to learn and a high level of personal motivation, drive and energy. Previous experience of working within a software development team would be beneficial, although not essential.

This position is a split role and will be primarily testing based within the Product Development department although there will also be the opportunity of working directly with the Technical Support department.

Duties will include understanding the project lifecycle and deliverables; Defining and reviewing test procedures and specifications; Creating and executing tests on systems and software; Defining and setting up test environments to represent a real world test; Collaborating with other members of the development team to define areas and specifics of testing; Reproducing reported issues; Involvement in maintaining full awareness of testing technical developments including: testing methodologies; automated test tools and related software; and propagating awareness of technical developments throughout the technical team ;Creation of documentation such as user manuals, knowledge base articles, training material; Ability to provide front line technical support; Possibility of joining the 24/7 out-of-hours Technical Support rota (for additional remuneration)

Salary is competitive and dependent on experience. Coda Octopus Products Ltd offers a competitive benefits package.

Applicants should send their CV and a covering letter to robert.carsley@codaoctopus.com explaining why this job is right for them.

4b.) SURVEY ENGINEERING MANAGER, ABERDEEN, UK

This Job Description is not to be considered exhaustive. You are expected to contribute to other activities out with the scope of this Job Description.

The Engineering Manager is responsible for the proper operation and efficiency of all survey and positioning equipment. He/she is responsible for the maintenance and preparation of the equipment carried out by the base and oversees the configuration of systems for offshore jobs.

As an important part of this role the engineering manager keeps abreast of technical developments and oversees design and introduction of new survey and positioning systems to support InterMoor rig move and mooring operations.

For this he/she leads a team of 2 development engineers/surveyors and will be required to work offshore occasionally on jobs where new technology is implemented.

To apply for the position please email: RecruitmentABZ@intermoor.com or alternately via post please address to: Miss Hrushika Mistry, InterMoor Marine Services Limited, Tern Place House, Tern Place, Bridge of Don ,Aberdeen, AB23 8JX