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July 2010 Issue

Quester Tangent Signs Undersea Sense Ltd. As New Representative for U.K., Ireland

Quester Tangent (Saanichton, Canada) has appointed Undersea Sense Ltd. (Ellon, Scotland) as its new representative for the United Kingdom and Ireland.

"Andy Williamson, the director and founder of Undersea Sense, hails from a background that directly complements our objectives in seabed classification," said Chris Elliott, Quester Tangent marine director.

Williamson said that the seabed classification products from Quester Tangent complement the existing product range offered by Undersea Sense, which includes multibeam sonars from R2Sonic (Santa Barbara, California). Data acquired by the R2Sonic sonar can be seamlessly loaded and processed for bottom type in Quester Tangent's swath-classification software. For more information, visit www.questertangent.com.

PanGeo Subsea Opens U.K. Operations Office

PanGeo Subsea (St. John's, Canada) has opened an operations office in Aberdeen, Scotland. Company president Moya Cahill said Aberdeen was a strategic choice for the hub of its offshore operations.

"We have identified a strong market demand for our 3D acoustic imaging service and want to bring our leading edge technology directly to our customers," Cahill said.

Vice president of global operations Alexander Fleming will be heading the Aberdeen operations. Fleming has been involved in the offshore construction oil and gas business for more than 30 years. For more information, visit www.pangeosubsea.com.

Aquamarine Power Unveils Oyster 2 Design, Receives £6 Million in Additional Funding

Just one month after unveiling the design of the Oyster 2 wave energy converter, Aquamarine Power (Edinburgh, Scotland) announced in June that it had raised an additional £6 million in funding.

The 26-by-16 meter, 800-kilowatt device will deliver 250 percent more power than its predecessor, the Oyster 1, Aquamarine Power said. Oyster 1 was deployed at the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in Orkney, Scotland, last summer.

The £6 million will be used to fund the procurement program and provide general working capital. Earlier this year Aquamarine Power secured an award from the Carbon Trust's Marine Renewables Proving Fund to support the manufacture of Oyster 2. The company plans to build the updated device in Scotland this summer.

Aquamarine Power said that design improvements will increase energy production, simplify installation and reduce maintenance requirements.

The company plans to begin deployment of three Oyster 2s at EMEC in summer 2011. All three devices will be linked to a single onshore 2.4-megawatt hydroelectric turbine.

"The design concept remains exactly the same, but we have improved every element of that design, from the size and shape of the Oyster flap to the hydraulic power take-off and pipeline system," said Aquamarine Power chief executive officer Martin McAdam. "Oyster 2 has very few moving parts and the hydraulic elements are modular, meaning they can be swapped in and out as maintenance is required."

The company said a small farm of 20 Oyster 2 devices would provide enough energy for more than 12,000 homes. For more information, visit www.aquamarinepower.com.

Corvus Energy and Dow Kokam Sign Agreement for Sales of Lithium-Polymer Cells to Marine Markets

Corvus Energy Ltd. (Richmond, Canada) announced in May that it has entered into an exclusive distributor contract with Dow Kokam (Midland, Michigan) for sales of its lithium-polymer cells to the marine industry.

"Dow Kokam provides the world's most technologically advanced lithium-polymer cells, providing a key component in our battery technology for marine applications," Corvus Energy chief executive officer Brent Perry said. "Dow Kokam's patented lithium-polymer Z-fold cell structure technology allows higher energy density, higher discharge rates and a longer cycle life than any other cell manufacturer."

For more information, visit www.corvus-energy.com.

RBR Delivers MS-310 Microsalinometer To the National Oceanography Centre

The National Oceanography Centre (NOC) recently chose RBR Ltd.'s (Ottawa, Ontario) MS-310 microsalinometer to continuously monitor the salinity bath in its facility.

The design of the MS-310 will allow the NOC to develop an automation and control system to direct the unit to sample automatically, RBR said.

The MS-310 was selected because it provides a highly accurate and stable ratio-metric determination of salinity that is temperature independent, RBR said. The dual-cell approach removes the need for highly stable bath temperatures because both cells are surrounded by a well-stirred oil bath, ensuring thermal uniformity, the company continued. This means sample properties do not need to be changed by warming to match the salinometer, according to RBR, making it ideally suited to NOCS' requirement to calibrate over a range of temperatures. For more information, visit www.rbr-global.com.

MacArtney Builds, Delivers Two FOCUS-2 Vehicles to DOF Subsea in Record Time

MacArtney A/S (Esbjerg, Denmark) recently delivered two FOCUS-2 vehicles to DOF Subsea A/S (Bergen, Norway). MacArtney said the two vehicles were built and delivered in record time.

The two vehicles were delivered to DOF Subsea on board the vessel Geosund, where a sea acceptance test (SAT) was carried out. A pipeline inspection project was planned to start right after completion of the SAT, making timely delivery crucial, MacArtney said.

One of the vehicles was delivered fully equipped for survey use. It was mounted with side scan sonar, a ring laser gyro, digiquartz and Doppler instruments from EdgeTech (West Wareham, Massachusetts). The other vehicle was delivered as a spare and was capable of taking over after a few hours of sensor integration. The SAT was successfully completed after a few days, MacArtney said, allowing DOF to start on its survey project a few hours later. For more information, visit www.macartney.com.

Rockland Scientific Signs New Agents in Australia and Singapore

Victoria, Canada-based Rockland Scientific Inc. (RSI) has signed exclusive representation agreements with Imbros Inc., Australia (Cambridge, Australia) and Singapore-based Sea and Land Technologies Pte. Ltd. (SALT) to distribute its line of turbulence measurement instrumentation, RSI recently announced.

Imbros will distribute RSI's equipment in all Australian states and territories. SALT will distribute RSI's instrumentation in all countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, mainly Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines.

"This is exactly the kind of technological synergy we are looking for in our representatives," said RSI president Rolf Lueck. For more information, visit www.rocklandscientific.com.

Japanese Government Authorizes Lloyd's Register As First Foreign Classification Society

Lloyd's Register (London, England) was confirmed in May as the first foreign classification society to be formally authorized by the Japanese government to carry out surveys on ships flying the Japanese flag.

Under Japanese legislation, Lloyd's Register has been designated as a recognized organization and is granted delegated responsibility for statutory surveys and permission to issue statutory certificates.

Prior to this authorization, only Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (Tokyo, Japan) had been recognized.

"Lloyd's Register is extremely proud to secure authorization from the Japanese government after many months of preparation, documentation and audit, and we take very seriously the responsibilities assigned to us," Chris Walters, Lloyd's Register's marine operations director, said. For more information, visit www.lr.org.

Austal Opens European Service Hub On the Strait of Gibraltar

In May, Austal (Henderson, Australia) announced that it had expanded its European service presence with the establishment of a maintenance hub on the Strait of Gibraltar.

The new hub will support the ports of Algeciras and Tarifa in Spain and Tanger Ville and Tanger Med in Morocco. It will be staffed by members of Austal's existing maintenance team as well as local personnel, Austal said. For more information, visit www.austal.com.

MDA to Provide Information In Support of Gulf Oil Spill Recovery Efforts

Richmond, Canada-based MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates Ltd. (MDA) recently announced that it has mobilized its resources to support increased information needs in the wake of the oil spill on the Gulf Coast.

Using its constellation of RADARSAT satellites and specialized analysts, MDA is providing an operational multisource maritime surveillance service that produces information with frequent global coverage independent of darkness or inclement weather, the company said.

The maritime surveillance service aids decisions being made to minimize environmental impact and optimize cleanup, MDA continued. For more information, visit www.mdacorporation.com.

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