

## **UnderCurrents**

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# BlueZone Group and Marine Advanced Research Sign Exclusive Distribution Agreement



BlueZone Group and Marine Advanced Research (MAR) are pleased to announce the signing of an Exclusive Distribution Agreement for distribution of MAR products in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

BlueZone CEO, Neil Hodges, said that he was very pleased to be able to announce

the agreement with MAR. "Since seeing the WAM-V vehicle in action at the Teledyne Marine Technology Workshop in San Diego we have been very impressed by this technology and its potential applications for our customer base," said Neil, "The WAM-V is an ultra-light and modular vessel that can perform in sea conditions where an ordinary boat of similar size could no longer operate."

A 20-foot shipping container can transport four WAM-V vehicles compared with only



A 20-foot shipping container can transport four WAM-V vehicles compared with only one conventional 18-foot Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) – the RHIB must first be deflated. It seems clear that for maritime robotic operations looking for benefits from distributed effects the autonomous WAM-V is a good starting point.

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## EOM Offshore - Versatile Product Portfolio

EOM Offshore offers a versatile product portfolio for many ocean monitoring and mooring applications:

- Patented Electro-Mechanical Cables. Stretch Hose and Electromechanical Chain enable compliant or non-compliant connection with seafloor assets. They both provide direct electrical connection that enables the constant delivery of data and power for fixed, real-time measurements from seafloor-to-surface.
- Marine Recovery Systems. LinePak and Multifunction Node. Marine Recovery Systems enable recovery of a mooring and then haul back of the anchor.
- Universal Joints. Electromechanical universal joints provide a robust electrical and mechanical connection point for electromechanical riser elements.

The EOM patented technology is a specialised mooring element comprised of stiffened rubber and electrical wires that tether to oceanographic buoys. The Stretch EM Cable ensures mechanical compliance by elongating 2.5 times its original length in rough seas and returning to its original length in calm conditions, all the while transmitting data and power.





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## Versatile Double Eagle Integrates Solstice Sonar



The versatility and adaptability of the Saab Double Eagle system is demonstrated by an ability to integrate the latest sonar technologies in support of Mine Countermeasures (MCM) missions. The Double Eagle Mine Disposal Vehicle provides a powerful and stable platform that can be adapted to meet the modern mine threat.



The Sonardyne Solstice sonar is one example of a Multiple Aperture Sonar (MAS). Multiple apertures see further and at higher resolution that traditional side scan sonar. The wide swath results in high area coverage rates. This enables location and classification of mine-like objects on the seabed at faster rates.

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## Don't Kill the Navy Mine Countermeasures Triad

In this perceptive article the challenges faced by the US Navy in Mine Countermeasures (MCM) are discussed. Like many western navies, the USN is looking toward new robotics systems and unmanned technologies to counter the mine threat. The significant risk is that as legacy systems are retired, there is a capability gap in MCM doctrine, tactics, and experience.

Like the USN Avenger-class minesweepers, the RAN Huon-class Minehunter Costal is the only asset capable of both mine-sweeping and mine-hunting from the littoral to deep water using a high-frequency variable depth sonar and Mine Disposal Vehicles. MCM ships have the endurance to sustain unsupported mine-clearing operations and they remain the only naval systems that can complete the entire search, localisation, and mine-neutralisation process with a high degree of confidence.



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## SUT Evening Technical Meeting - 13 February – Perth

Surveying Subsea with the Latest Technologies



BlueZone CTO, Darren Burrowes, joined with other presenters for this year's first Society for Underwater Technology Evening Technical Meeting. The theme for the event was Surveying Subsea with the Latest Technologies. Darren spoke on Maritime Robotics for Defence exploring the BlueZone journey in maritime robotics, beginning with the introduction of the first ROV to Offshore Oil & Gas in the Bass Strait through to current work with Navy and Army in unmanned systems.



SMEs like BlueZone have much to offer in rapid prototyping and development of new technologies for Defence applications. Focussing on the maritime environment, BlueZone supplies and supports robotic maritime systems that can perform the dull, dangerous, and dirty work that results in a technology edge. Increasingly, robotic systems are used for distributed effects and deep work to provide new advantages to Defence.

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## **Events**

Please join BlueZone Group at these upcoming events!

We are keen to talk to you about how innovative new technologies offered by BlueZone can solve issues for your challenges in Australia's oceans, coastal seas, and rivers.

We are happy to answer your questions and arrange on-site demonstrations and further discussion if required.

## Australian Oil & Gas – 13 to 15 March – Perth

This year the BlueZone team will be "walking the exhibition". We are available for meetings and demonstrations. Please contact Mark Musarra, General Manager West Coast.

## Ocean Business - 9 to 11 April - Southampton UK

BlueZone Group will be at Ocean Business in Southampton again in 2019 and we are looking forward to meeting with existing and new suppliers, colleagues and friends. Please contact us to set up a meeting if you would like to discuss and issues about sales and support of leading underwater technologies in Australia and New Zealand.

### Protect and Preserve AE1

Help by entering to win a 13-day small ship expedition cruise around PNG waters

About 12 months ago, one of Australia's most enduring naval mysteries was solved when the wreck of HMAS AE1 was finally discovered. A few months later, a detailed survey uncovered a host of secrets including a likely cause of the sinking.

The Australian E Class Submarine Foundation (AESMF) has now been established and one of its tasks is to understand the environment in which AE1 is laying. It plans to do that with an instrumentation package which will cost around \$120,000.

To help raise some of those funds, APT has donated a 13-day small ship expedition cruise around PNG waters and including the AE1 site departing in October 2019. The cruise is valued at \$27,990 and a raffle has been established with only 1,000 tickets to be sold at \$50 each.

To buy tickets, please visit the <u>Submarine Institute of Australia</u> website where you will see the link on the home page.

The raffle will be drawn on 1 April 2019 and the winner advised as soon as possible thereafter.





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New Products & Services



#### **DL24 Acoustic Modem Configurator** Intuitive Programming of Benthos Acoustic Modems

The DL24 Acoustic Modem Configurator (AMC) simplifies the task of configuring Teledyne Benthos acoustic modems. The intuitive graphical user interface of the AMC is easy for any technical staff to learn and use and eliminates the need to learn a modem serial command set. Save time in setting up modems, reduce the risk of mistakes due to incorrect keystrokes and know the status of your batteries before you launch with the DL24 Acoustic Modem Configurator.

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#### First images from the new RESON SeaBat F50 forward looking sonar Latest sonar built on new SeaBat Technology

Teledyne Reson has released images from the new SeaBat F50 forward looking sonar at TMTW 2018 Europe in Cannes. The SeaBat F50 is the latest sonar build on the new SeaBat sonar technology.

The SeaBat F50 is a high-resolution forward-looking sonar system operating at 200kHz or 400kHz that illuminates a wide 140° horizontal sector ahead of the sonar head assembly. The SeaBat F50 may be mounted on a surface vessel, submarine, AUV or ROV and is available in depth ratings up to 6000 meters.

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#### Newcastle

+61 2 4964 3500 21 Huntingdale Drive Thornton, NSW 2322, Australia Boronia, VIC 3155, Australia Bibra Lake, WA 6163, Australia

#### Melbourne

+61 3 8720 0300 9 Macquarie Place

#### Perth

+61 8 6595 1500 Unit 1, 41 Discovery Drive

www.bluezonegroup.com.au

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