



BOT NewsWire...

BOT PRESS RELEASE: Sept, 2004

Brooke Ocean Technology moves towards commercialization with Penetrometer

Brooke Ocean Technology a Halifax Canada-based manufacturer of advanced data collection platforms and shipboard handling systems. In partnership with Christian Situ Geoscience, Brooke Ocean Technology has developed and designed a Free Fall Cone Penetrometer (FFCPT) that is able to free fall through the water column, impact the seabed and record geotechnical and geophysical data. This remarkable device's portability and deepwater applications allow it to be deployed from vessels of opportunity, such as oceanographic survey ships, instead of the current dedicated drill ships. These features are cost effective, reduce overall risk and provide immediate high-quality reliable information. When integrated with Brooke's free-wheeling winch called the "Moving Vessel Profiler (MVP)" and used on-station the potential for improved survey efficiency is tremendous.

The design of the FFCPT was then upsized for use on a 1,800 kg piston coring system. The procedure is identical to the way a core sample would be taken, except that instead of collecting sediment samples, the FFCPT makes direct measurements of important engineering parameters, such as shear strength, sediment grain size and can identify layering.

Brooke Ocean Technology's ongoing success with the FFCPT project wouldn't have been possible without the support of funding partners. Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada (PRAC) provided \$50,000 for phase I of the project and an additional \$10,000 in funding under the new Technology to Usability program (TTU), to help promote the opportunity to commercialize this new tool. As well, GSC-Atlantic and Defense Research and Development Canada provided the project with \$97,000 of in-kind ship time. The funding supported the development of a case study and the commercialization of the technology by Brooke Ocean Technology Ltd. In July, the FFCPT was tested and the corer-FFCPT was allowed to free fall and recovered excellent data over the top 15 m of sediment at 1200 m water depth.

Brooke Ocean Technology is optimistic about the testing currently underway and is confident that the FFCPT is en route to becoming a commercially-viable testing system in the near future.

For further information contact:

Amy Longard
Communications Coordinator
Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada
1321 Edward Street
Halifax, NS
B3H 3H5
Tel: (902) 494-2762
Fax: (902) 494-2489
communications@pr-ac.ca
www.pr-ac.ca

Arnold Furlong
Brooke Ocean Technology Ltd.
50 Thornhill Dr., Unit 11
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia,
Canada B3B 1S1
Tel: (902) 481-2500
Fax: (902) 468-1388
afurlong@brooke-ocean.com
www.brooke-ocean.com