

Modus unveils next generation survey and inspection capabilities

PRESS RELEASE

Modus Seabed Intervention has successfully completed trialling one of the subsea industry's first commercially available hybrid unmanned underwater vehicles. It will be one of the first autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) to feature the capabilities and characteristics of a remotely operated vehicle (ROV).

In partnership with Saab Dynamics, Modus has developed the Saab Sabretooth to offer greater endurance and speed, and is also developing advanced sensor payload packages and operating methodologies. The vehicle is expected to contribute to more cost-effective survey and inspection projects in the offshore, defence and oceanographic sectors.

First commercial use

Following successful trials in Sweden and the UK, Modus is preparing the advanced spread for its first commercial deployment. The system will be used to fulfil pre-engineering, construction support and life-of-field condition monitoring requirements. The company is also working on a number of applications in the science and defence industries.

The vehicle can be operated fully autonomously or as a tethered ROV from one platform, offering maximum flexibility and cost savings. The hybrid AUV features a thruster pattern that enables it to hover with six degrees of freedom, providing the capability for both inspection and light intervention applications.

The Saab Sabretooth is equipped with increased thrust for high-speed surveying, as well as additional batteries for extended endurance. It is depth-rated to 1,200 metres, with an option to increase this to 3,000 metres to meet project-specific applications. Modus has also developed two deployment and recovery systems, a floating dock, and a subsea garage. In addition, the spread features a suite of sensors, HD video and stills cameras, and 3D imaging sonars.

Driving innovation

The new vehicle is part of a significant development programme by Modus, to introduce advanced and disruptive technologies. The company is also developing a fully-managed service to support holistic data harvesting and management, in combination with advanced mission planning and execution.

Modus and Saab have entered into an agreement that focuses on research and development to generate a road map for hybrid AUV technology. "Our solution is a game-changing development for the subsea industry," says Managing Director of Modus Seabed Intervention, Jake Tompkins.

"This innovation addresses the challenges facing this sector and the current economic environment," Jake continues. "We are consistently driving innovation to enable our customers to maximise their operational efficiencies while meeting evolving industry requirements. "The hybrid AUV development – and our partnership with Saab – demonstrate our commitment to remaining at the forefront of the subsea sector through the application of advanced technology."



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MODUS
Seabed Intervention

PRESS RELEASE

Royal IHC has a 57% stake in Tompkins UK Limited, the parent company of Modus Seabed Intervention founded by the Tompkins family. IHC is also a partner in the TI Geosciences joint venture (that IHC and Tompkins created in 2015). The strong combination of IHC and Tompkins gives customers access to technologically advanced, high-quality, efficient and integrated solutions in seabed data acquisition, management and application through surveying, engineering and intervention.

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Profile Royal IHC

In an ever-changing political and economic landscape, Royal IHC enables its customers to execute complex projects from sea level to ocean floor in the most challenging of maritime environments.

We are a reliable supplier of innovative and efficient equipment, vessels and services for the offshore, dredging and wet mining markets. With a history steeped in Dutch shipbuilding since the mid-17th Century, we have in-depth knowledge and expertise of engineering and manufacturing high-performance integrated vessels and equipment, and providing sustainable services. From our head office in The Netherlands and with 2,700 employees working from sites and offices on a global basis, we are able to ensure a local presence and support on every continent.

Dredging operators, oil and gas corporations, offshore contractors, mining houses and government authorities all over the world benefit from IHC's high-quality solutions and services. With our commitment to technological innovation, in which sustainability and safety are key, we strive to continuously meet the specific needs of each customer in a rapidly evolving world. Royal IHC. The technology innovator. For more information on Royal IHC, visit www.royalihc.com

Profile Modus

Modus is a specialist global provider of innovative technical, project and unmanned underwater vehicle (UUV) services for subsea and seabed survey, inspection and intervention. Modus operates a comprehensive range of UUV systems, which are deployed across the entire life cycle of a subsea field development.

The company provides life-of-field support for subsea developments in the renewable energy, oil and gas, telecommunications, oceanographic, mining and defence sectors. It safeguards technical delivery and operational excellence through its safe, professional, innovative and optimised services.

The Modus fleet uniquely comprises ROV, AUV and hybrid vehicles for survey, stabilisation and protection (marine trenching), drilling and construction support, intervention, and inspection repair and maintenance (IRM).



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