

Minutes from the first OFEG-TECH meeting

IMR, Bergen, Norway 24-25th of October 2007

Attendees:

NERC: Colin Day, Emma Northrop, Terry Edwards
 NIOZ: Marck Smit, Jack Schilling
 IFREMER: Olivier Lefort, Marc Nokin, Vincent Rigaud
 GENAVIR: Bernard Morvan
 PtJ/IFM-GEOMAR/AWI: Barbara Tanner, Joerg Bialas, Matthias König
 CSIC: Pablo Rodriguez, Jordi Sorribas, Arturo Castellon
 IMR : Kaare Hansen, Einar Osland, Hans Petter Knudsen

Actions from the October 2007 OFEG-TECH meeting:

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
All OFEG-TECH presentations to be collated onto CD and a copy sent to each OFEG-TECH member.	Hans Knudsen
Compile OFEG-TECH contact list from presentations, forward to attendees for ratification and publish on web site.	Marck Smit
Contact OFEG-TECH participants for outstanding details of Deep Platforms equipment available for the OFEG barter, and enter information onto the web site.	Marck Smit
Contact OFEG-TECH participants for outstanding details of seismic equipment available for the OFEG barter, and enter information onto the web site.	Colin Day
CSIC to develop a web forum on their home web site to encourage the sharing of information and experience of equipment operation. CSIC to present and discuss at OFEG-TECH2 in 2008.	Arturo Castellon
OFEG-TECH to be publicized via a presentation to the INMARTEC meeting in Toulon in 2008.	Colin Day
All organisations produce a presentation to OFEG-TECH2 on technician training/exchange; how to achieve it? What are the barriers? What are the benefits?	OFEG-TECH
Develop OFEG.org web site and include OFEG-TECH pages.	M.Webb/Colin
To facilitate cross training, OFEG-TECH recommend that OFEG include the identification of training berths as a standard agenda item at their programme meetings.	Colin/Barbara/OFEG committee
IFREMER/CSIC/Germany to present details of their integration and deployment of the QUEST-6000 ROV on RV L'Atalante, and the VICTOR-6000 ROV on the RV Sarmiento de Gamboa at OFEG-TECH2 in 2008.	Olivier/Pablo
NERC/CSIC present the details of 2007/2008 seismic collaboration activities to OFEG-TECH2 in 2008.	Pablo/Emma
3 working groups were initiated to work through 2007/8 and report back to OFEG-TECH at the 2008 meeting in NIOZ; details outlined in the minutes below.	OFEG-TECH

Minutes:

Day1 – 24th October objectives:

- **To present an overview of OFEG and OFEG-TECH**
 - **Presentations by each country detailing how their organization is set up, who are the relevant contacts, plus a special topic (if desired), each followed by questions and discussions.**
- Colin Day gave a presentation on OFEG outlining its' operating principals and the key areas of collaboration and interaction which enable it to operate effectively and efficiently. It was outlined that these same collaborative principals should be adopted for OFEG-TECH.
 - It was stated that the key development area for OFEG-TECH is a greater understanding of each others organizations and improved contact and communication between technical staff at the right levels of responsibility and authority.
 - The six OFEG TECH organisations gave a presentation outlining how their organization is set up and who are the relevant contacts followed by discussion. A CD with a copy of all presentations has been sent to all attendees.
 - Rolf Korneliussen, IMR, gave a presentation of Large Scale Survey System, LSSS which was developed by IMR and is in use onboard IMR ships.

Day2 - 25th October objectives:

- **Discussion of the proposed OFEG Deep Platforms and seismic collaboration**
 - **Overview of the OFWG report.**
 - **Discussion as to the next steps and outline plan/discussion topics for the next meeting.**
- Per Nieuwejaar gave a short presentation of the OFWG report outlining the connections between this report and the OFEG and OFEG-TECH remit. This report can be found at the following URL:
http://www.eurocean.org/files/OFWG_FINAL_report.pdf
 - Colin Day and Marck Smit gave a presentation on the proposed OFEG virtual Deep platforms and seismic collaborations.
 - Olivier Lefort gave a presentation on the Eurofleet I3 initiative.
 - IMR staff conducted a tour of the IMR facility including the vessel “Håkon Mosby”
 - The afternoon was set aside to discuss the previous day's events and to discuss the future way forward for OFEG-TECH. A number of common themes were agreed upon as appropriate for setting up small working groups to develop interaction between OFEG-TECH partners with a view to reporting back to OFEG-TECH in 2008. These are outlined at the end of these minutes.
 - A number of administrative decisions were agreed to consolidate the group which are outlined at the end of these minutes.
 - The meeting concluded with consideration for dates of the next meeting (which will need to be reviewed in conjunction with OFEG partners). Future meetings to be two day meetings, the 2008 Venue will be NIOZ, Texal, the proposed Date: 12th/13th October.

Administrative decisions from Day2:

- It was stated that OFEG-TECH should report to OFEG. It was suggested that future OFEG-TECH meetings need to take place a suitable time prior to the Autumn OFEG meetings. Barbara was asked to take this proposal to the November 2007 OFEG meeting for ratification. Colin Day will provide a brief report and minutes of the OFEG-TECH meeting for the November 2007 OFEG meeting.
- It was agreed that three attendees from each OFEG organisation is an appropriate number for future meetings to keep the group to a suitable and manageable size. This is a guideline and not absolute, if additional attendees are required for specific reasons then this is not a problem.
- The 2008 meeting agenda will be constructed closer to the next meeting date through consultation with OFEG-TECH members. Two standard agenda items were agreed to be included at future meetings. Standing agenda items:
 1. Participants present / discuss OFEG-TECH interaction and activities from the previous year.
 2. Opportunity for available training berths for technicians for the forthcoming year.
- The meeting suggested that a chairman should be elected; Colin Day was nominated by the IMR representatives and was agreed by the meeting participants. Marck Smit will act as secretary. It was also decided that each organisation will have one primary contact as outlined below.

Working groups set up to report to OFEG-TEC2 in 2008:

A number of common issues were discussed amongst the group with a number of initial working groups proposed to work on specific topics and report to the next meeting, the following topics were agreed:

- *Calibration working group:*

This group will work to generate information and data on the existing OFEG member sensor calibration capabilities and requirements, with a view to assessing the potential for collaboration to progress operational efficiency, cost savings and service improvement.

Working group: Terry (NERC)/Pablo (CSIC)/Marck (NIOZ)/Joerg (GERMANY)

- *CTD cables fibre optic capabilities; necessary or not?*

Through discussion it was noted there are differing views of the necessity/requirement for fibre optic CTD cables. This working group will determine which OFEG organisations use fibre optic CTD cables, what equipment this capability is used for, and which equipment manufacturers plan to provide fibre optic capable equipment in the future.

Working group: Terry (NERC)/Jack (NIOZ)

- *Ship borne software/data acquisition/processing; where are we? Where do we want to be?*

What are the possibilities for standardization and collaboration?

This broad topic has direct relevance to all OFEG members; the overview of this working group is to assess the current position of ship borne scientific software, overall future direction and the potential for collaboration.

Working group: Marc (IFREMER)/Jordi (CSIC)/Paul Duncan (NERC)