

Minutes from OFEG-TEC 2012 NIOZ

6th Ocean Facilities Exchange Group–Technical (OFEG-TECH) meeting 2012

September 25th, 13:00 – 17:00

Attendees:

NIOZ: Jack Schilling
NERC: Colin Day
IFREMER: Loic Dussud, Patrice Woerther
GEOMAR Friedrich Abegg
MARUM Nicolas Nowald, Tim Freudenthal
CSIC: Pablo Rodriguez
IMR : Hilde Spjeld

OFEG-TECH 20123 was held at NIOZ on September 25th, 13:00 – 17:00.

This meeting was planned as a half day meeting prior to the INMARTECH conference as a brief 'get together' to catch up on news and events since the last meeting.

Activities:

1300 - 1315 Coffee
1315 - 1330 Welcome and introduction.
1340 – 1700 Updates and presentations from participants

NOC presentations:

- News and update on NOC
- Discovery replacement build
- NOC clean CTD winch trials
- Video of ISIS rebuild and 1st dive following rebuild

Germany:

- Update and presentations on;
Seafloor geodetic Array,
large scale 3D seismic system (2x1km streamer),
ABYSS AUV operations,
GEOMAR ROV operations,
Progress on the new RV Sonne II &RV Poseidon

MARUM:

- Update on MEBO and QUEST
- Discussion about joint MEBO and RD2 cruise operations plus the additional use of AUV

NIOZ:

- Discussion on an emerging commercial deep sea mining contract

General points of interest:

- GEOMAR have just purchased a clean CTD system, it was discussed that now GEOMAR, NERC and NIOZ all operate clean CTD systems with different winches and synthetic cables. This would be a good topic for discussion and comparison at the next OFEG-TECH meeting.
There is an increasing field of experience developing within the OFEG partners in the use of synthetic ropes for a variety of operations and although discussed at OFEG-TECH 2 years ago it would be useful to update each other in this area of capability.
- MARUM discussed that the new MEBO200 rock drilling system is planned for sea trials in 2014. Possibly on the new RV Sonne?

- IFREMER discussed their plan to replace their VICTOR ROV cable with an upgraded Rochester Corporation version.
- CSIC discussed some of the technical issues they have been having with their ATLAS multibeam system on the RV Gamboa, they outlined that the deep water system had a number of problems but is now starting to produce results but there are still further issues particularly with the shallow water system.
- NIOZ discussed their innovative design for a 'self deploying mooring system' which is on display in the NIOZ workshop as part of the INMARTECH event.

Meeting close, attend INMARTECH ice breaker

Date and venue of next meeting:

It was proposed that the OFEG meeting could be held in MARUM in autumn 2013. The MARUM participants would look into this possibility, and Colin will discuss this with the OFEG partners in the 2013 Spring meeting. There was general agreement and support from the group that this would be an interesting option and opportunity to visit the MARUM facilities.