



AUT 2019

Wednesday 23rd October 2019
Parmelia Hilton Hotel
14 Mill St, Perth, Western Australia



Presenter Biographies (presenting order)



Commodore Chris Smith

Director General Littoral, Royal Australian Navy

Commodore Chris Smith CSM RAN joined the Royal Australian Naval College in March 1989. He has had many seagoing and shore appointments, and completed operational deployments in Solomon Islands, the Middle East, and provided humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in Fiji. Commodore Smith holds a Masters of Management in Defence Studies, a Masters in Maritime Studies, and a Masters of Arts (International Relations). He is married with three grown children.



Commander Paul Hornsby

Commander, Royal Australian Navy

Paul Hornsby is a marine geophysicist by education and a Mine Warfare specialist by profession. Paul is Navy Lead for Autonomous Warfare Systems, covering all domains. He was previously responsible for Mine Warfare, Diving and Special Operations Capability during which appointment he led the international Autonomous Warrior 2018 program. He has been Chairman of Australia On The Map since 2013, and has previously been Chairman of THS, IFHS and President of AHS.



Richard Mills

Sales Director for Marine Robotics, Kongsberg Maritime

Richard Mills is the Sales Director for Marine Robotics at Kongsberg Maritime. He is responsible for the global sales and marketing of the HUGIN, the recently released HUGIN Superior AUV Systems, and the Sounder USV. He leads a sales team located in Norway, the UK and USA. Richard has been with Kongsberg since 2012. Prior to this he held a similar position with ISE located in Vancouver, Canada.



Mark Evans

Director, BE&R Consulting

Mark is Director of BE&R Consulting who specialise in full life cycle floating production support from concept through to operation and decommissioning.



Alex Mosnier

Director / Principal Naval Architect / Project Manager, Floating Solutions Consulting

Alex is Director of Floating Solutions Consulting, who specialise in hull integrity management, in particular reducing risk & improving economics for their Clients through the efficient management and optimisation of hull inspection, engineering, risk mitigation and repairs.



Gilles Gardner

Global Asset Integrity Technical Advisor, i-Tech 7 (part of Subsea 7)

Gilles is the Global Asset Integrity Technical Advisor for i-Tech 7, the life of field business unit of Subsea 7. He has over 16 years' experience in the Oil and Gas industry focused on the design, inspection and integrity management of subsea systems. Gilles has a BEng in Mechanical Engineering (Design and Manufacturing), is a Chartered Engineer and member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.



Geoffrey Lawes

CTO Sea Operations (Australasia), iXblue

Geoff Lawes joined iXblue in 2018 following a 17 year career as a Maritime Geospatial Officer in the Royal Australian Navy. During his time in the Navy, Geoff Commanded a Navy survey ship and also held headquarters staff roles in the Hydrographic Meteorological and Oceanographic group. He has a unique blend of skills and experience having also studied and worked in the fields of Physics, Computer Science, Hydrographic Science and Navigation. Geoff enjoys being on the leading edge of subsea technology and is always looking for new ways to solve complex problems in this challenging environment.



David Donohue

Managing Director, iXblue Pty Ltd

David is the Managing Director of iXblue Pty Ltd, a specialist survey firm established in 2007 to undertake nautical charting and safety of navigation surveys in the Australasian region. iXblue has been one of the primary service providers of hydrography for the New Zealand government for over ten years and is currently one of two panel members working in support of the Land Information New Zealand Annual survey program. iXblue employs a small team of expert hydrographic surveyors and marine geophysicists who reside in Australia and New Zealand.



Craig Donald

Managing Director, ISES Technical Services

Craig, a graduate engineer with over 30 years experience in the offshore oil & gas industry. Managing Director & co founder of ISES Technical Services, which specialises primarily of cathodic protection assessment of subsea oil and gas facilities. Over the last three years ISES has been collaborating with OFG to develop the iCP system on AUVs.



Ray Smith

Survey and Inspection Manager, DOF Subsea

Ray Smith has over 30 years of experience in the IMR industry covering Inspection, ROV, subsea engineering, and survey disciplines. Ray started as an offshore engineer before moving into a variety of technical, project and commercial roles in UK, USA and in the last 7 years Australia. He is currently the Survey and Inspection Manager at DOF Subsea in Australia.



Leiv Erling Grytten

Sales Manager, FORCE Technology Norway

Leiv Erling Grytten hold a BSc in Mechanical Engineering from NTNU in Trondheim, specializing in mechanical design. Leiv Erling handles customer relations, sales and marketing for the company Worldwide, and have been focusing most of his time bringing their subsea inspection technology FiGS® to market, from prototype to full global commercialization. He is also working closely with the FiGS® R&D team to find new applications for their unique technology.



Lex Veerhuis

Global Solution Manager – Subsea Integrity, Fugro

Dutch, Civil Engineer with a masters degree in Flood Risk (Delft University of Technology). He has worked with Fugro on various topics involving implementing new ways of working in the organisation. For the last two years he was based in the head office in the Netherlands. Since April Lex has been working in Perth on improving our service offering in the subsea IMR industry.



Darren Burrowes

Chief Technology Officer, BlueZone Group

Darren is co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer at BlueZone Group. BlueZone Group is an underwater technology company providing products and engineering services for diverse market sectors including Defence, Offshore Oil & Gas and Oceanographic Science. Darren graduated with degrees in Electrical Engineering and Administration and has career experience as a Weapons Engineer in the Royal Australian Navy, roles in two major shipbuilding projects, (ANZAC Ship and Minehunter Coastal), and experience in start-ups and growing technology-based companies.



Morgan McDermont

Director of Acoustics, Advanced Navigation

Morgan heads the design team for the Acoustic Products portfolio at Advanced Navigation. As a mechatronic engineer with a work history in field robotics and autonomous systems, Morgan has driven the development of the Subsonus family of acoustic navigation, communication and sensing instruments. His interest in the field extends from a passion for subsea electronics and scuba diving.



Dowon Kim

PhD Candidate, Curtin University

Dowon Kim received the B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in electrical engineering from the Seoul National University of Science and Technology, Seoul, South Korea, in 2003 and 2009, respectively. He is currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree with Curtin University, Bentley, WA, Australia. From 1998 to 2011, he was a Transmission and Substation Engineer and an Engineering Lecturer with Korea Electric Power Corporation, Seoul, South Korea. He was a Senior Testing and Commissioning Engineer with Global Testing Services, Canning Vale, WA, Australia until 2016.



Rachel Koch

AUV Survey Manager, Blue Ocean Monitoring

Rachel has undertaken hydrographic surveys for over 13 years, a career that encompasses AUV surveys in many different environments. Rachel has a diverse project portfolio ranging from operational support of offshore diamond mining in Africa ,through to mission critical planning and execution of surveys in the search for Malaysian airline MH370. Her experience in simultaneously managing and coordinating a large fleet of AUVs at significant water depths is unprecedented. Rachel has now embarked on a new challenge and is developing the AUV service line at Blue Ocean Monitoring as AUV Survey Manager.



Aaron Leather

Operations Manager Australasia, Oceaneering

Aaron Leather started his career in Aviation as a Commercial Pilot before moving into the Oil and Gas industry as a ROV Pilot 16 years ago. Being heavily involved in ROV operations offshore before bringing his knowledge and experience into the onshore operations team at Oceaneering. He is still involved in aviation and drone technologies outside of his Operations Manager role and is currently working with new technology development for the offshore industry.



Hema Gunasagaran

Regional ROV Business Development Lead, Oceaneering

Hema has 5 years working experience in the Oil & Gas Industry. She has a Bachelor of Engineering (Honors) in Petroleum Engineering and MBA in Project Management. She worked as a Well Intervention Engineer under new ventures and technology prior to Oceaneering. Now, she represents regionally for ROV Services as Oceaneering's Business Development Lead.



Daniel Kruimel

Regional Sales Manager, Teledyne

Daniel has several years of business development and project management experience both in Australia and South East Asia. He has recently rejoined Teledyne after previously working for CARIS and will be focusing on ensuring clients investing in Teledyne solutions receive maximum ROI for their software and hardware.



Christine Devine

Principal Geoscientist, Fugro

Christine Devine is a principal geoscientist with experience in geohazard identification and risk assessment for various subsea site characterization projects. She possesses over 15 years of experience interpreting geological, geophysical, and geotechnical data and has a background in the mineral exploration and mining industry. She has a B.Sc and M.Sc in Geology and is registered as a professional geoscientist in both Newfoundland, Canada.



William J. Kirkwood

Senior Research and Development Engineer, MBARI

William (Bill) Kirkwood has been with the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) since 1991. Bill has developed a number of vehicles and instruments at MBARI including the remotely operated vehicle (ROV) Tiburon, the autonomous vehicle class (AUV) Dorado and the deep ocean Raman systems (DORISS) to name a few. Bill is also an Adjunct Engineering Professor at Santa Clara University (SCU), working with undergraduate and graduate students since 1999.



Steve Duffield

Commercial Director, Guardian Geomatics

Steve Duffield is a founding Director of Guardian Geomatics Pty Ltd. Prior to that he was employed by Decca, Racal, Thales and Fugro. In those roles he worked both in Australia and internationally. He was involved in a variety of offshore project types and locations. Steve is currently the President of the Australasian Hydrographic Society and a Director of the International Federation of Hydrographic Societies. Steve has an MBA and is a FCPA, FAIM and GAICD.