

# Marine Science & Technology SIG

Terms of Reference (Jan 2019)

Participants: CEFAS, DNV GL, East Coast College, East Point Geo, Fugro, Gardline, Imarest, James Fisher, MarineSpace, 4C Offshore, UEA

## Setting the Scene

The seabed around the shores of the UK directly supports a business turnover of about £40bn, nearly 200,000 jobs and £12bn in exports.

Much of that income and the associated jobs are generated and delivered in the East of England and through operations in the Southern North Sea (SNS). The SNS is a challenging, complex, shallow water system characterised by strong tidal currents and is one of the most industrialised seas in the world.

The SNS supports a range of activities across a number of sectors including oil & gas, renewables, aggregates, nuclear power, telecommunications and power cables, ports and harbours etc. This unique energy mix has given rise to a vibrant local marine science and technology community which includes world class academic institutions running marine programmes, global survey providers and a plethora of SMEs providing innovative and bespoke solutions. This marine science community has honed its skills over more than 50 years of operations and now provides flexible, adaptable and exportable solutions based on decades of knowledge.

The challenge is to ensure that these organisations and the services they provide receive the recognition and support to continue to develop and to grow and are therefore able to offer their world leading expertise to an expanding international market.

## Rules of Engagement

SIG members must participate in at least 4 of our 6 meetings per year. On the occasions when our members are unable to attend, we welcome a nominated stand-in from the member organisation to attend on the SIG member's behalf.

## Objectives

The key objectives of the Marine Science and Technology SIG include

- a) To provide a powerful voice that represents the Marine Science and Technology capabilities & views of the EEEGR members and the opportunities available for development of skills and careers.
- b) To provide a platform to secure new business opportunities for EEEGR members.
- c) To promote the East of England as a "Centre Of Excellence" both nationally and internationally for Marine Science & Technology.
- d) To promote links and encourage cooperation between businesses, and organisations carrying out research and providing education and training in the field of Marine Science and Technology.
- e) Highlight the technological challenges and opportunities faced by operators and developers in the SNS and support them in developing solutions.
- f) Commission a limited and focussed number of Work Groups to promote Marine Science and Technology by developing new services that add value, improve efficiency and focus on HSSE.
- g) Make members aware of and respond on their behalf to relevant industry and regulatory consultations.

## Priorities & Workscope

1. To constantly challenge the make-up of the SIG and its direction, ensuring that it remains relevant and a voice to represent the EEEGR members.
2. To deliver at least one annual event on Marine Science & Technology per year.
3. To drive forward the development and publication of the EEEGR Marine Survey & Technology Company Compendium.
4. To become the eastern hub for funding opportunities and to advise members of funding calls and opportunities.
5. To organise a schedule of "Opportunity & Update" presentations from senior figures in Marine Science & Technology.