Sea-Bird Electronics Newsletter



Issue #10 August 2011

PRODUCT NEWS

COMING SOON SBE 63 Optical Dissolved Oxygen Sensor

Development work on the SBE 63 is nearing completion, with field tests showing excellent results. The first production units are intended for use on Argo floats, and for integration with moored SBE 16*plus* V2 Seacats (using the Seacat's RS-232 auxiliary sensor input channel). Sea-Bird anticipates starting to take orders for the SBE 63 in October 2011; more details to follow in the near future.

COMING SOON SBE 25plus Sealogger CTD

The SBE 25, first released in 1989, is nearing the end of its life due to parts obsolescence, but a redesign is nearing completion. The SBE 25plus features 16 Hz sampling (vs. 8 Hz), a 12-cell alkaline battery holder (vs. 9 loose batteries), 2 GB memory (vs. 8 MB), integrated pressure sensor (vs. SBE 29), 8 differential A/D and 2 RS-232 input channels (vs. 4 single-ended, 2 differential, and 1 log-amplified). Customers with existing SBE 25s can re-use their SBE 3 Temperature Sensor, SBE 4 Conductivity Sensor, SBE 5 Pump, associated cabling, and cage with the SBE 25plus, reducing the cost of upgrading their system. Sea-Bird anticipates starting to take orders for the SBE 25plus in November 2011; more details to follow in the near future.

Seacat Compatibility with WET Labs RS-232 Sensors

In April, Sea-Bird released new firmware versions of the SBE 16plus V2, 16plus-IM V2, and 19plus V2, with the ability to acquire and log data from a variety of WET Labs RS-232 instruments, including the WET Labs single-channel ECO, dual-channel ECO FL-NTU, and ECO Triplet. The Triplet is a three-optical-sensor instrument that can include both fluorometers and scattering sensors; one Triplet plugged into the RS-232 auxiliary sensor channel on a Seacat yields data that previously required three auxiliary A/D sensor channels. Seasave V7 real-time data acquisition software and SBE Data Processing software were updated to provide compatibility with the data from these sensors.

SBE 37 IDO MicroCATs Prove Anti-Fouling Capability in the Field

A customer deployed twelve SBE 37-SMP-IDO MicroCATs (Conductivity, Temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, and optional Pressure) for two months in a high-fouling environment. While the instruments were covered with fouling, the intake and exhaust remained clear as a result of the MicroCATs' antifoulant devices and unique plumbing and pumping regimen, and there was no degradation of the signal.



SEA-BIRD NEWS

Trade-in Program for SBE 16 and SBE 19 Seacats

Do you have an original SBE 16 or 19? Sea-Bird stopped production on these instruments at the end of 2000, replacing them with the SBE 16plus and 19plus, and later (2008) with the SBE 16plus V2 and 19plus V2. Parts for the SBE 16 and 19 are obsolete and becoming difficult to procure, leading Sea-Bird to offer a Trade-In Program:



Trade in an SBE 16 or 19, and receive a \$1500 discount on the net price of a new SBE 16plus V2 or 19plus V2 (only one \$1500 discount per purchased instrument). Valid for orders placed by March 31, 2012. See http://www.seabird.com/sales info/SBE16-19TradeInProgram.htm for details.

SEA-BIRD NEWS continued

European Calibration and Repair Facility

After several years of planning and a year of preparation, Sea-Bird is opening a calibration and repair facility in Kempten, Germany in late 2011. Initially, the facility will handle only a few higher volume products (SBE 3, 4, 5, and 37). Additional product capability is planned throughout 2012; it is anticipated that by the end of 2012 this facility will handle 95% of all our products as a full-service calibration and repair facility for our European customers. In 2012, support will also be added for a range of products from the other members of the Sea-Bird Ocean Group (WET Labs and Satlantic). For further information and updates as the opening draws closer, see http://www.seabird.com/Sea-Bird_GmbH/SbeEurope.htm.

Sea-Bird Moved in 2010 — Come Visit!

We would like to invite customers to come visit us in our new facility. After many years of operating in a number of separate, small buildings, Sea-Bird moved around the corner in January 2010. The new facility is large enough for all of our manufacturing, engineering, R&D, sales, and administrative operations, and provides opportunities for expansion to adjacent buildings as we continue to grow. For our new address and directions, see www.seabird.com/about_seabird/Directions.htm; contact us (seabird@seabird.com) to arrange a visit and tour





Typical manufacturing cell



One of several calibration labs



Salinity checks in metrology lab

New Oceanographer Joins Sales/Applications Engineering Team

Mathieu Major (Mat) is the latest addition to our sales department's Application Engineering team. Mat has an undergraduate degree in biology from Hamilton College and a Master's degree in oceanography and business administration from the University of Rhode Island.



WEBSITE TIPS (www.seabird.com)

Check out these recent website additions:

Papers/Posters (to view this and other papers, pull down *Support* on our home page to select *Technical Papers*)

• Improving CTD Data from Gliders by Optimizing Sample Rate and Flow Past Sensors -- Ocean News & Technology, August 2011

Application Notes (to view this and other application notes, pull down *Support* on our home page to select *Application notes*)

Application Note 92: Real-Time Oceanography with Inductive Moorings and the Inductive Modem Module



E-mail: seabird@seabird.com Telephone: +1 425-643-9866 Fax: +1 425-643-9954