

Multi-user Acoustic Positioning in the Deep Waters of Tomorrow

Author: David Adams, *Nautronix, Inc. (Houston)*

Abstract

Today the offshore industry requires more from its navigation and positioning technology; demands include more accuracy, unlimited multi users, more integrity, frequency avoidance, more range or depth and more data. With the advent of super fast wireless communications in the home and office, it is often the case that the physical limitations of the environment in which we work underwater is less well understood, especially when you combine the demands for "More" with those of "Less" from the purse holders. This paper delivers an insight into a technology that is being used by DP Vessels, ROV, AUV, Ships and subsea production hardware to, not only position and navigate underwater, but also too communicate, without the use of cables. The paper describes the technologies that have been developed and provide details of recent implementations including the "Underwater GPS".

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