

Improved Acoustic Positioning for DP Operations

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Abstract

The demands of the offshore, research and defence industries for reliable and accurate subsea positioning in ever more difficult waters have increased significantly over the last few years. In a DP context these demands have been accompanied by a need to maintain and indeed increase update rates and positioning accuracies while operating from ever more powerful and noisy vessels. This has created significant challenges for the manufacturers of acoustic positioning equipment.

Several methods have been used to increase the range and reliability of existing systems to try to meet these increased challenges. All have an element of compromise in achieving their solutions, and many have reached the practical limits of their capability. Nautronix recognised that existing technology would not meet these new demands effectively, and have developed new acoustic signalling technology to address these needs. This utilises Acoustic Digital Spread Spectrum waveform designs to overcome many of the limitations of existing technology, and provide reliable and accurate positioning to meet the increasing demands of the industry.

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