

Dynamic Positioning and WROVs: A Productive Union

Author: Richard Gross, *Schilling Robotics*

Abstract

Dynamic positioning (DP) has been used by surface vessels for over 20 years with great success. No one can now imagine doing typical oil field construction work from a vessel that lacks this capability. DP has also increased the capabilities of AUVs. However, DP has generally not been used on commercial work-class remotely operated vehicles (WROVs), though several research organizations (such as Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) have implemented DP on their ROVs. Implementing DP on a WROV produces the same effect that DP has in other realms: improved safety and efficiency.

This paper describes the DP system of the Schilling Robotics Quest WROV. The paper discusses real-world WROV tasks that have been performed with Quest, and notes the benefits provided by the union of the WROV and DP.

Specifically the paper discusses:

- The characteristics of a DP-capable WROV control system
- DP implementation on the Quest WROV
- Use of DP to perform typical WROV tasks
- The future of DP on WROVs

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