National Marine Facilities – Sea Systems

RVOC Meeting
University of Rhode Island,
20 – 22 April 2010

Robin Plumley
Master Mariner
Research Ship Manager
Past Year ‘Highlights’

- RRS Discovery
  - Full year on science
  - Winch suite improvements

- RRS James Cook
  - Full year on science
  - Loss of CTD
  - Failure of CTD winch gearbox
  - Rescue of lone Atlantic rower
NERC Programme 2009-2010

- **RRS Discovery**
  - E. Atlantic
  - N. Atlantic
  - Trans N. Atlantic
Ship Issues - Discovery

- Completion of steelwork allowing wider operational range,
- Remedial work and enhancement work to winch system providing improved capability and confidence for science,
- Replacement of Sat-B system by Cruise I-P and Fleet Broadband providing internet access and improved data transfer ability,
NERC Programme 2009-2010

- **RRS James Cook**
  - Trans S. Atlantic
  - N. Atlantic
  - E. Atlantic
  - AMT
  - S. Atlantic
  - Drake Passage
  - Southern Ocean
Ship Issues – James Cook

- Bubble sweep-down issues continue,
- Some winch issues addressed by ODIM during JC037 and at re-certification period 2009,
- Restrictions on use of main propulsion has stabilised the fuel usage. Year end figures appear to indicate that costs have met NERC targets of £410/tonne,
- Appropriate support for electrical/electronic support on board for ship fitted systems,
- Kongsberg Contract,
- Siemens Contract,
- Engagement of ODIM, costs of ODIM,
- Review of programming of maintenance periods,
Ship Issues – Both

- Greywater/Blackwater discharges / retention,
- Use of RIB/Norsafe MOB for workboat activities,
- Review of engineering manning and work arrangements on JC and D4R,
- Long-term maintenance provision,
- Identification and programming of key marine staff for working-by new build,
- Available resources for temporary replacement posts for above,
- Age profile of seafarers / succession planning,
- Appropriate medical standards for fitness / OH monitoring,
- Appropriate medical support; doctors?, medicines?, equipment?
- Implementation of SSC and procedures,
Shore Issues

- Difficulties in attracting appropriate support for vessel maintenance support,
- Long-term maintenance provision, In-house? Contracted out?
- Resources for dealing with Shared Service Centre requirements,