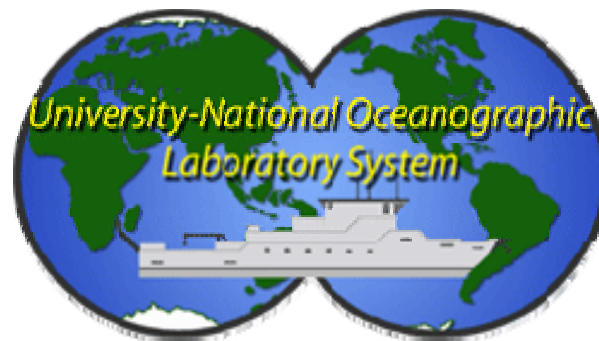


Update on the activities of the Deep Submergence Science Committee (DESSC)

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DESSC Chair



Four topics to be discussed

1) NDSF vehicle status and updates

admission of AUV Sentry into the NDSF

DSV Alvin upgrade

ROV JASON launch and recovery system upgrade

2) NDSF policies

photo attribution

video copyright

3) NDSF personnel

disparities in management at the NDSF

4) December DESSC meeting (AGU 2010)

Establishing a broader user base

informing the community about Alvin upgrade



admission of AUV Sentry into the NDSF

ABE was lost in March 2010 off the coast of Chile

Accelerated the discussion about admission of *AUV Sentry* into the NDSF (May and July 2010)

- *Discussion about key personnel and their impact on the program; maturity of Sentry*

DESSC outlined key milestones that are to be met to insure the continued inclusion of *Sentry* in the NDSF

- *To date, reports are that Sentry performance meets and typically exceeds expectations*
- *Personnel issues identified by DESSC are being addressed*



ABE



Sentry

DSV Alvin upgrade

DESSC continues to discuss the impact of the *Alvin* upgrade on the vehicle's science capacity

Susan Humphris (WHOI) presented to DESSC in May 2010

- *Presentation well received*
- *Major concerns about the HD camera system*
- *Concerns about payload and dive time*

DESSC will continue to work with the Replacement HOV oversight committee (RHOC) to insure that scientists' concerns are addressed



JASON launch and recovery system upgrade

ROV JASON is currently a two body system (MEDEA and JASON)

Matt Heinz (WHOI) proposed a new launch and recovery system that would eliminate the need for MEDEA

- *Improved safety*
- *Reduced turnaround time*
- *Possible increase in payload*

DESSC was unanimously supportive of this move, though questions did arise as to whether this would substantially increase the heavy lifting capacity of JASON



NDSF policies: photo attribution and video copyright

Attribution

Long standing concerns about photo attribution and copyright

DESSC is working with WHOI personnel to develop a simple, shipboard database to insure that photographer is properly recognized.

Copyright issue may be addressed by recent “copyleft” conventions

Video copyright

During a recent expedition, the question arose as to who retains copyright if the PI is OOI funded.

Led to agreements about copyright that will be further discussed at December AGU meeting



Activities in brief

NDSF personnel

There are some disparities in management at the NDSF

e.g. WHOI personnel have suggested to me that ALVIN and JASON pilots are not comparably compensated in salary, overtime or shore leave.

I will be asking Andy Bowen (WHOI) to provide DESSC with an assessment of this situation, to better understand how these issues, and how they may affect operations at the NDSF



December DESSC meeting (AGU 2010)

Establishing a broader user base and disseminating information

There is a ca. 30% reduction in demand for NDSF vehicles

A cursory examination revealed that a few “seasoned” PIs are responsible for the majority of the NDSF requests

DESSC is working to develop approaches to building a larger user base

- Publicity at the UNOLS booths (others?) in the future
 - e.g. the *Alvin* mockup sphere
- Presentations through existing mechanisms
 - R2K dist. Lecturer series
- “Proposed” FIC workshops ?

