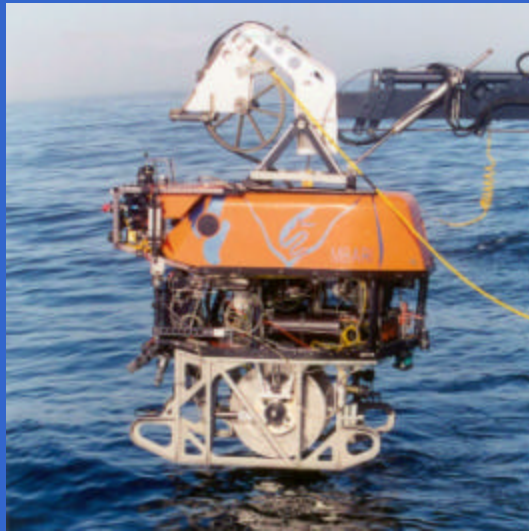


MARS

# Monterey Accelerated Research Site

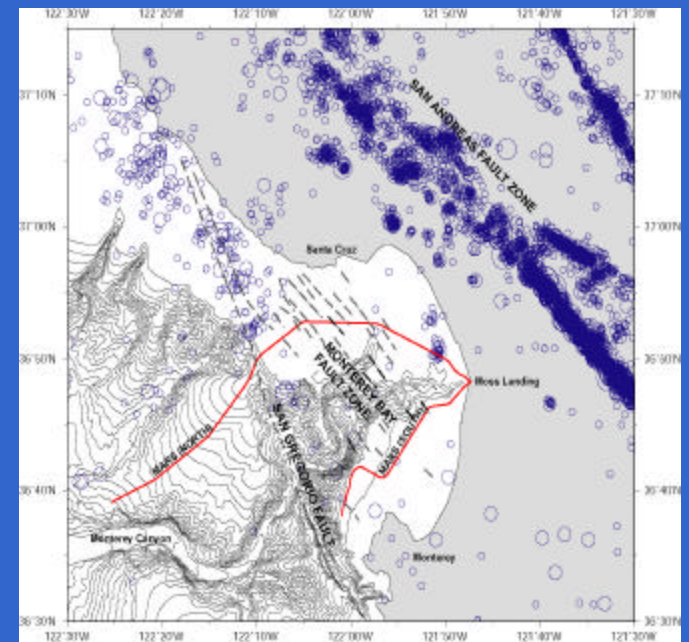
A Test-bed for ORION Observatories  
Start of Full Operations -- Summer 2007

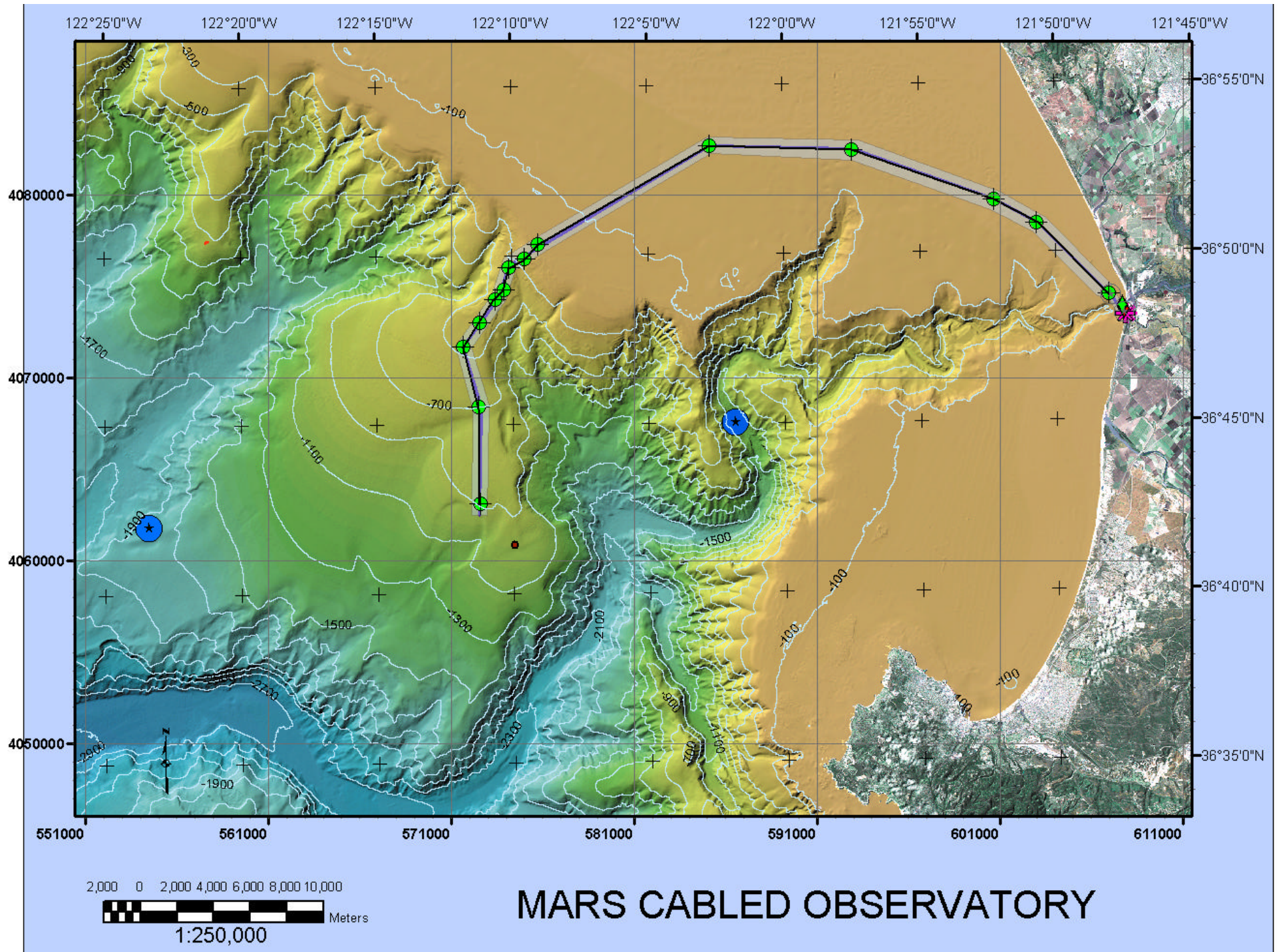
David Fierstein (c) 2005 MBARI



# What is MARS?

- 62 km of fiber optic cable
- Single undersea node at .9 km depth
- 100 Mbits per second data rate
- 10 kW of power to 8 instrument ports
- Capability of siting instruments on “extension cords”
- Serviced using *UNOLS* or *MBARI* ships/ROVs





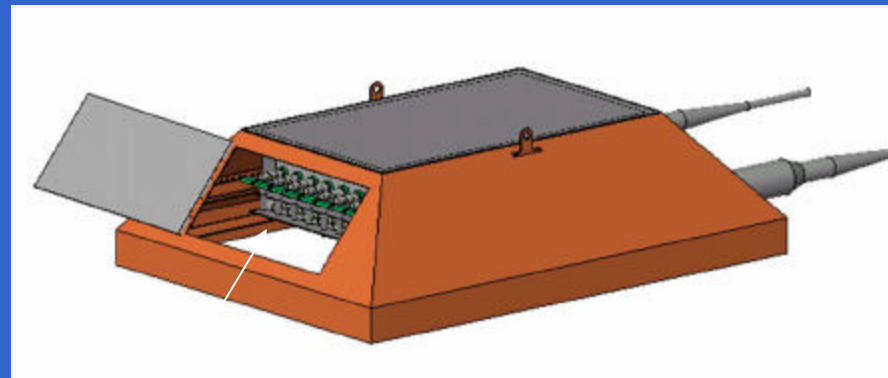
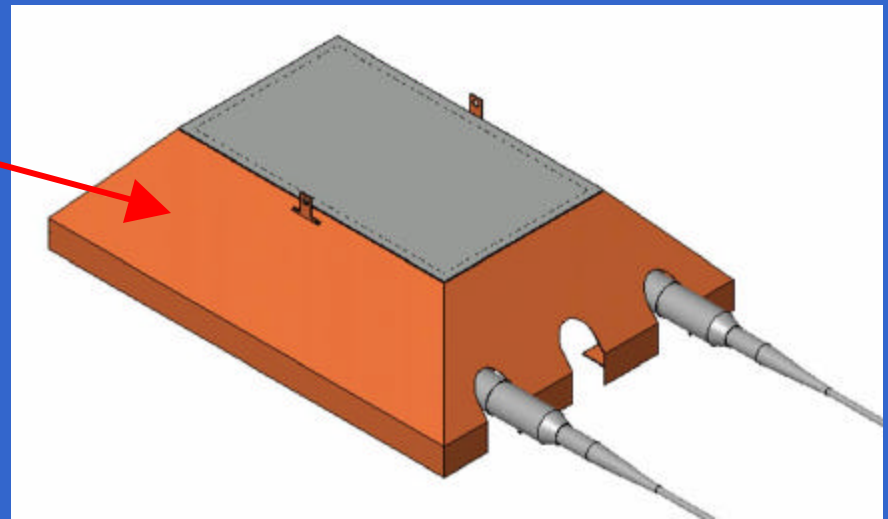
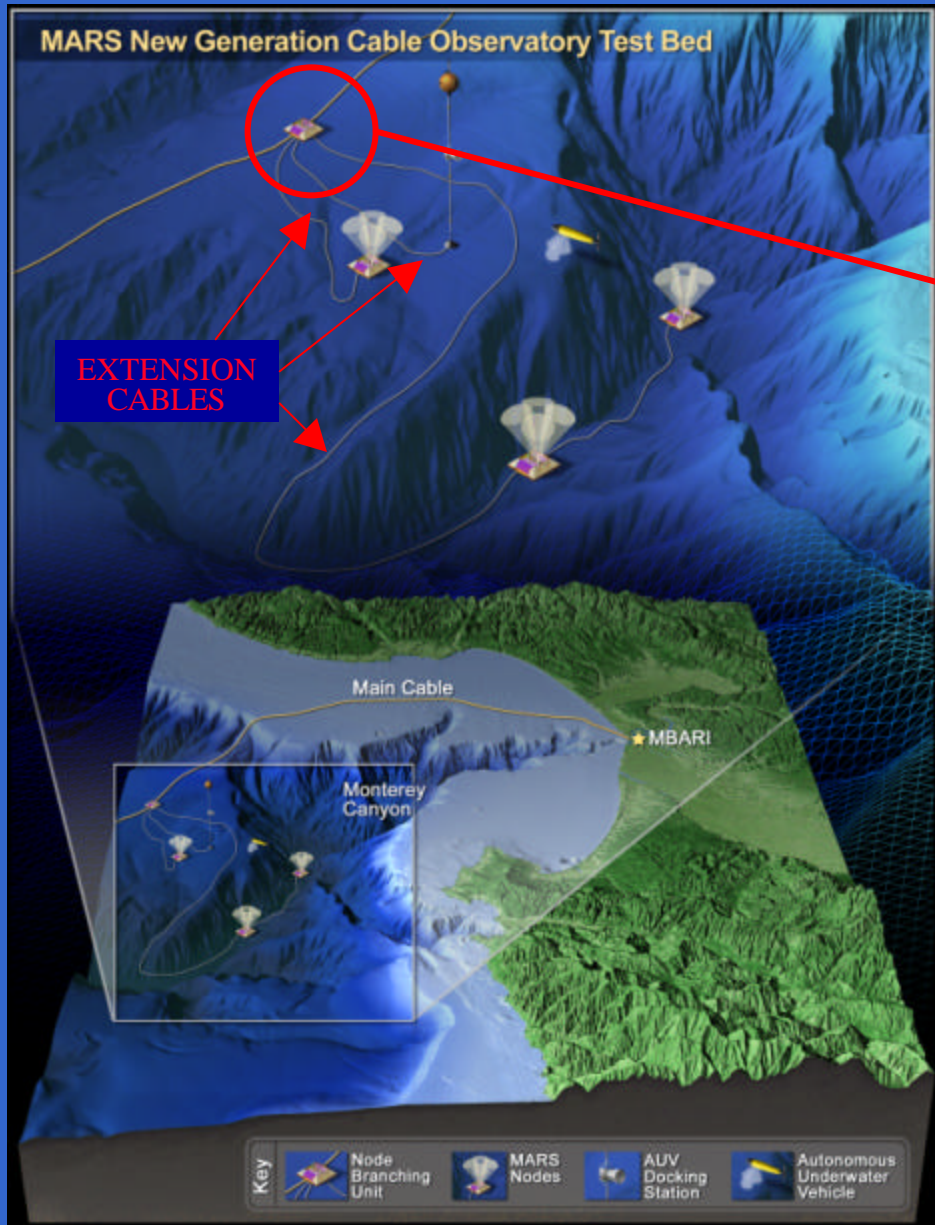
# A Test-bed for ORION Observatories

- Currently a funded NSF project with MBARI as lead institution.
- Will transition to NSF funded O&M with MBARI as operator for 3 years.
- MARS is focusing on the instrument developers with an emphasis on testing new technology and associated ROV-based marine operations to enable next-generation experiments.

# POWER & COMMUNICATIONS

- 9 kW to science instruments
  - 48 and 400 VDC cover low and high power users effectively
  - Provision for other voltages (12 VDC) will be provided with COTS DC/DC converters in the SIIM
- 10/100Base-T at each science port
  - TCP/IP Streams, FTP and ... protocols
  - SIIMs support conversion to other protocols (RS-232, RS-422, etc.)
  - Port may be connected to 1 instrument or a suite of instruments directly or using secondary multiplexers
  - Low latency to enable tele-operations (and other activities) is the goal

# MARS Overview



SCIENCE INSTRUMENT  
CONNECTOR PANEL

# MARS Users--Possible Projects

## Imaging capabilities

- Eye in the Sea (low light camera)--Widder; FUNDED
- Digital still images of experiments

## Seismic network

- MOBB to MARS (Buried Seismometer ) UCB, Romanowicz

## Adaptation of existing sensors

- Rumbleometer (hydrophone and bottom depth recorder)'  
NOAA/PMEL; Chadwick
- Eddy Flux correlation ( $O_2$ , ISUS, CTD, flow-meter); Planned;  
MBARI; Barry/Johnson

# MARS Users--Pending Projects

## Adaptation of existing sensors--continued

- Electrochemical samplers for in situ chemistry (Medusa Science Mission; Flynn/Schultz)
- In situ Voltametric Sensors for Microbiology; Cowen; Hawaii
- Benthic ROVER; MBARI; K. Smith; in development
- Acoustic imaging; Rutgers; Rona; planned



# pending projects--continued

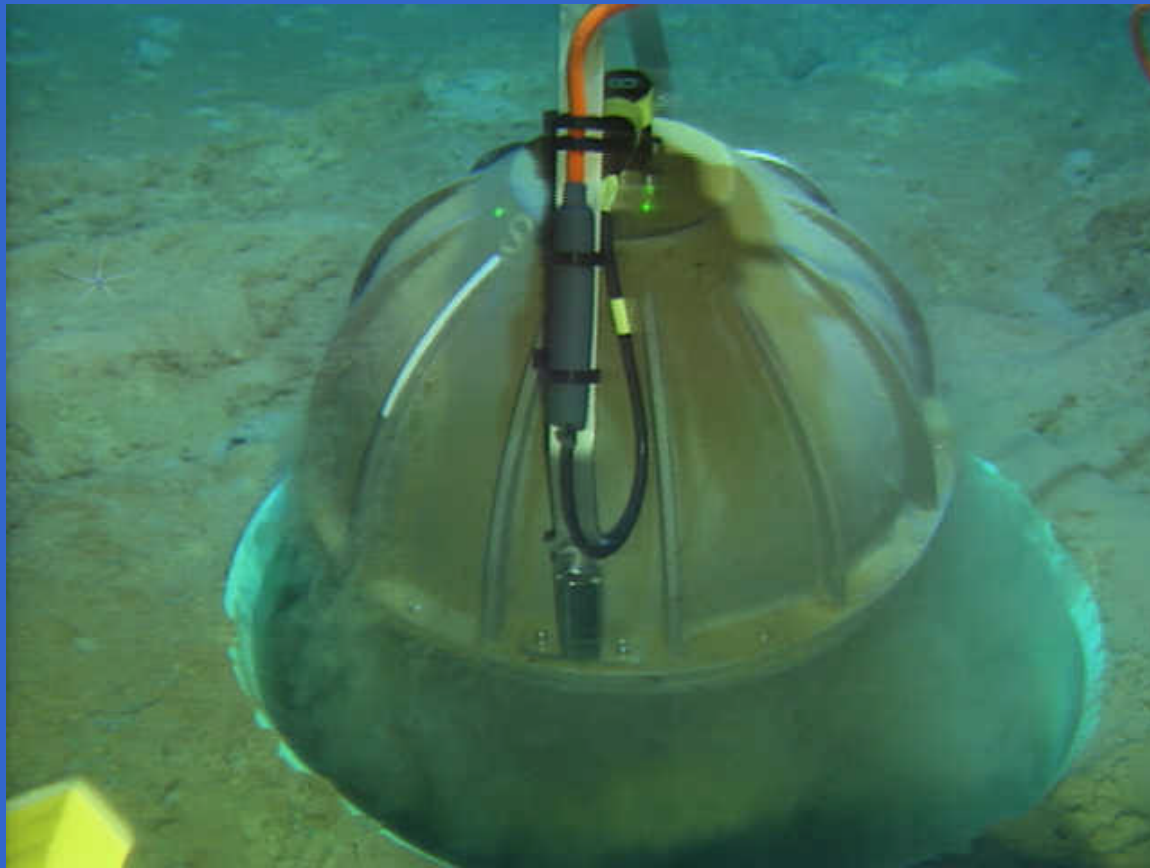
## Extension of the infrastructure

- Aloha mooring secondary node with guest connectors; APL; McGinnis; FUNDED
- IODP Borehole Observatory--
  - CORKS with T,P sensors (maybe chemical sensors)

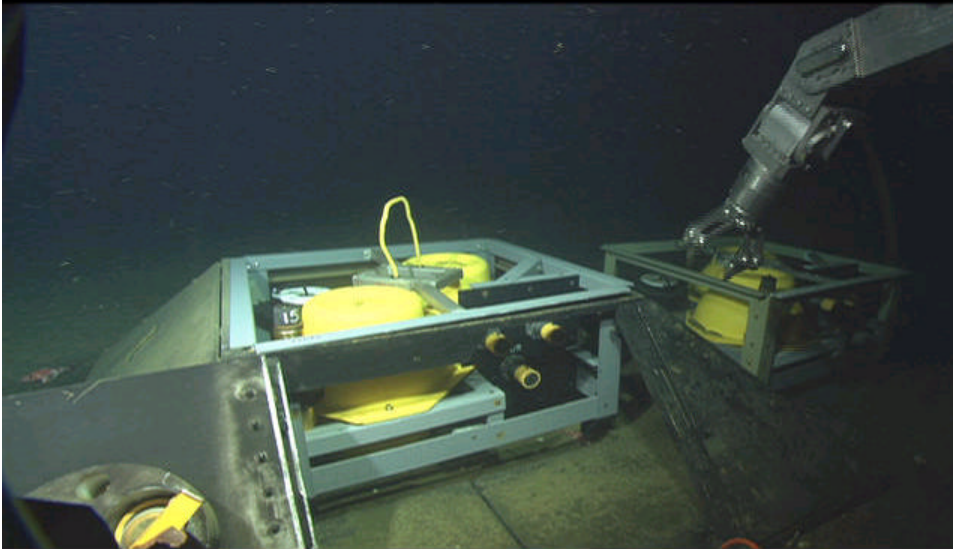
## Biogeochemical sampling/sensing

- Deep Environmental Sample Processor (D-ESP); MBARI; Scholin; PENDING; NASA
- MEDUSA-ISOSampler system; Oregon State; Schultz
- McLane Remote Water Sampler--Butterfield; planned
- H<sub>2</sub>S, CH<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub> sensors--planned; Lilley; UW/Keck

# KECK Broadband Sensor



Copyright 2003 Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute  
Ventana/2003/083/00\_25\_47\_26.rgb (MAIN) Dive# 2336  
Mon Mar 24 19:55:19 2003 GMT (local +8) esecs=1048535719 Lat= 36.69051361  
data-logger: identity-reference new, within bottom-mount Lon= -122.16567230

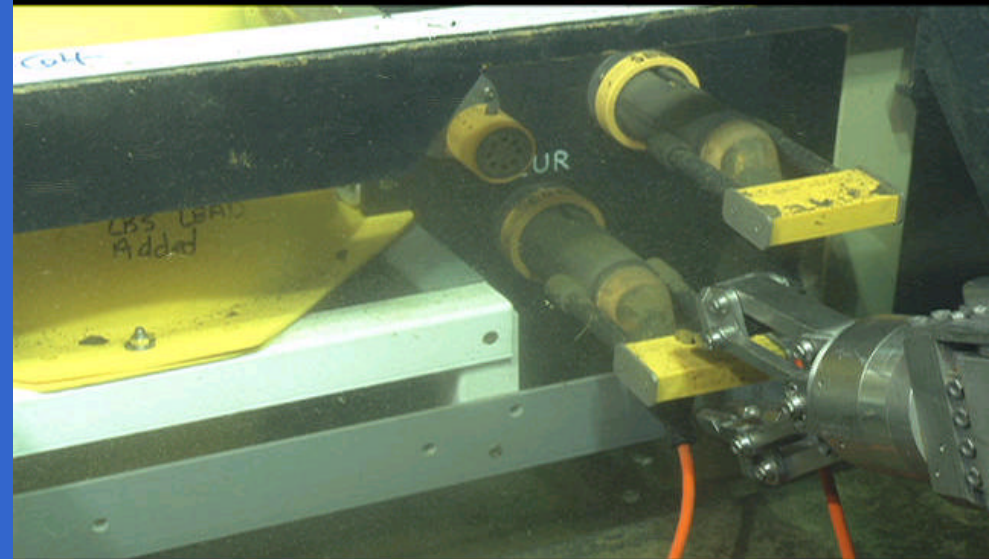


MARS Node is patterned after the MOBB RIN with an Electronic Module as an insert in a trawl resistant bottom mount

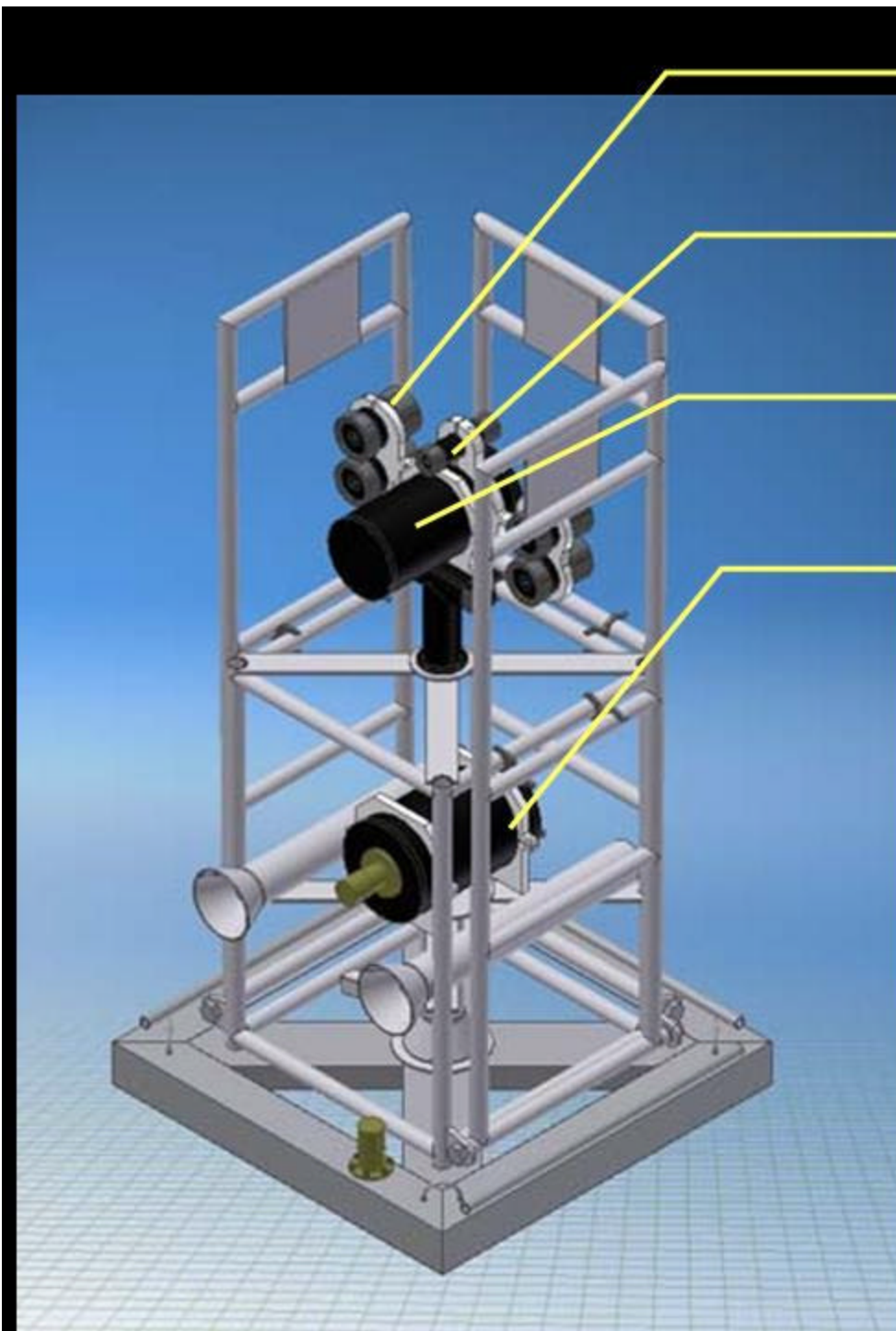
Depth= 999.7 m Temp= 3.637 C Sal= 34.523 PSU Oxy= 0.21 ml/l Xmiss= 86.5% 23

Copyright 2003 Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute Dive# 2336  
Ventana/2003/083/00\_19\_38\_07.rgb (MAIN) Lat= 36.69030380  
Mon Mar 24 19:49:08 2003 GMT (local +8) esecs=1048535348 Lon= -122.16602325  
manipulator: disconnecting connector

The ROV Ventana connects the MOBB electronics module to the broadband sensor with underwater mateable ODI connectors



Depth= 999.8 m Temp= 3.632 C Sal= 34.523 PSU Oxy= 0.26 ml/l Xmiss= 86.5% 23

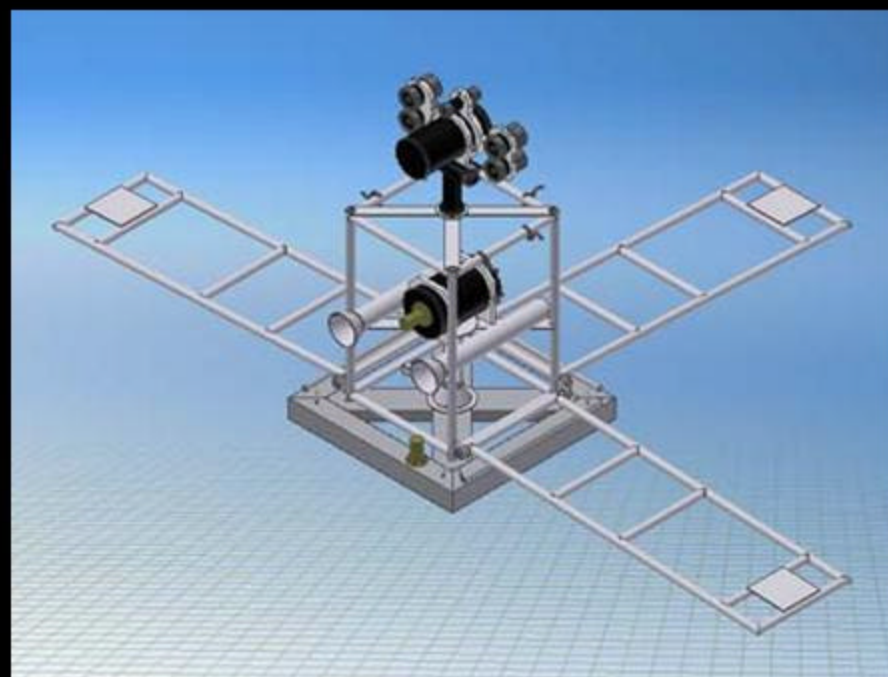


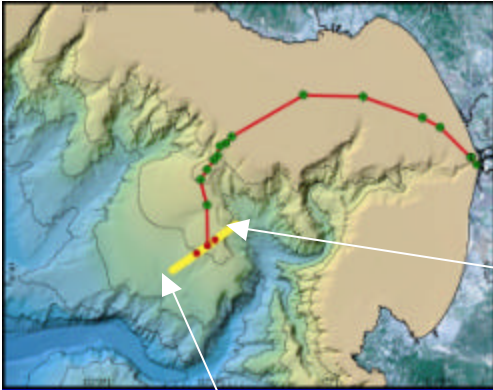
Illuminators (2 Red, 2 White)

Bioluminescence Detector

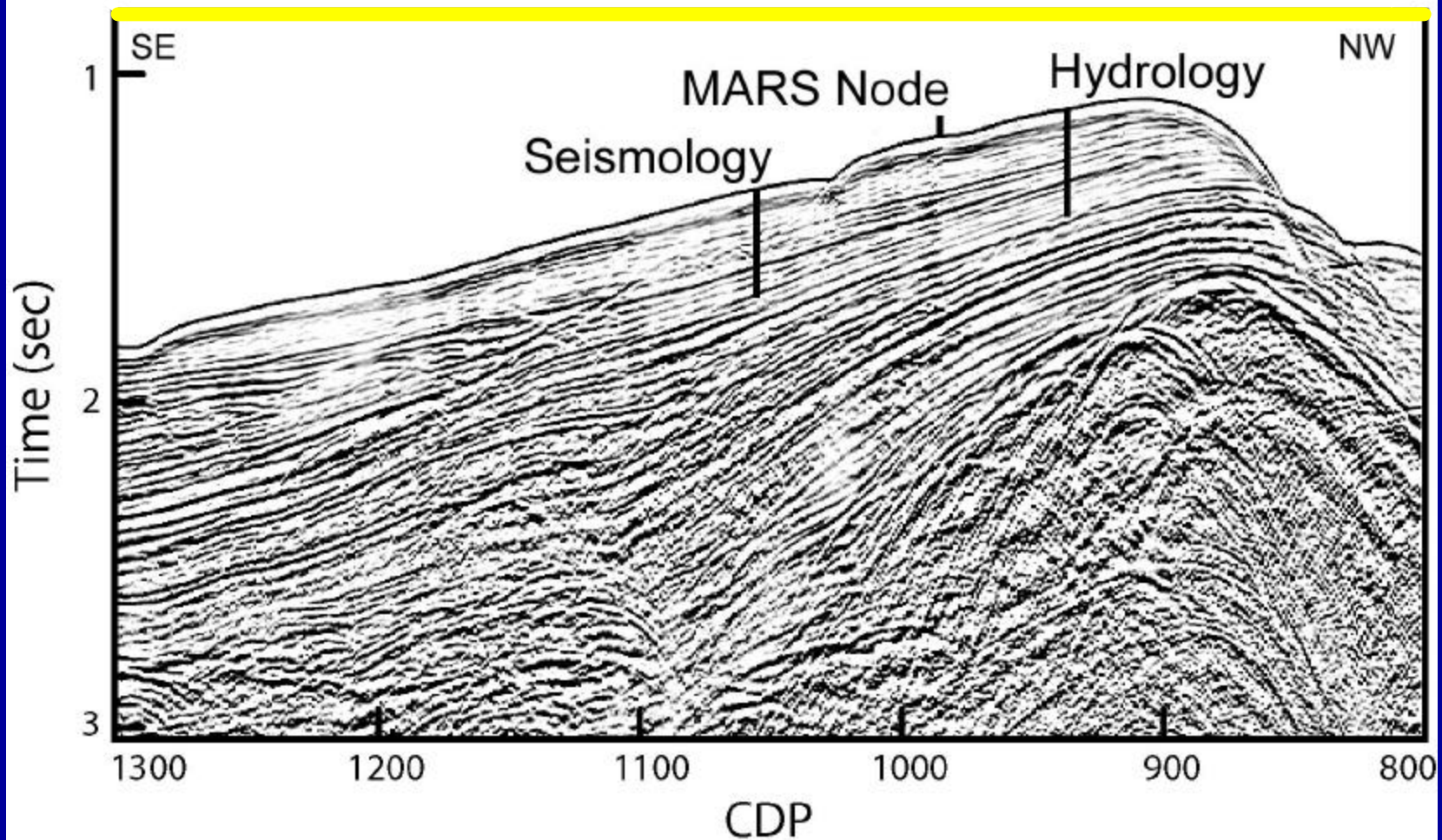
Intensified Camera

Communication Bottle





- Borehole Observatories in Monterey Bay (proposal to IODP)
- Connect MARS Cable to IODP boreholes:

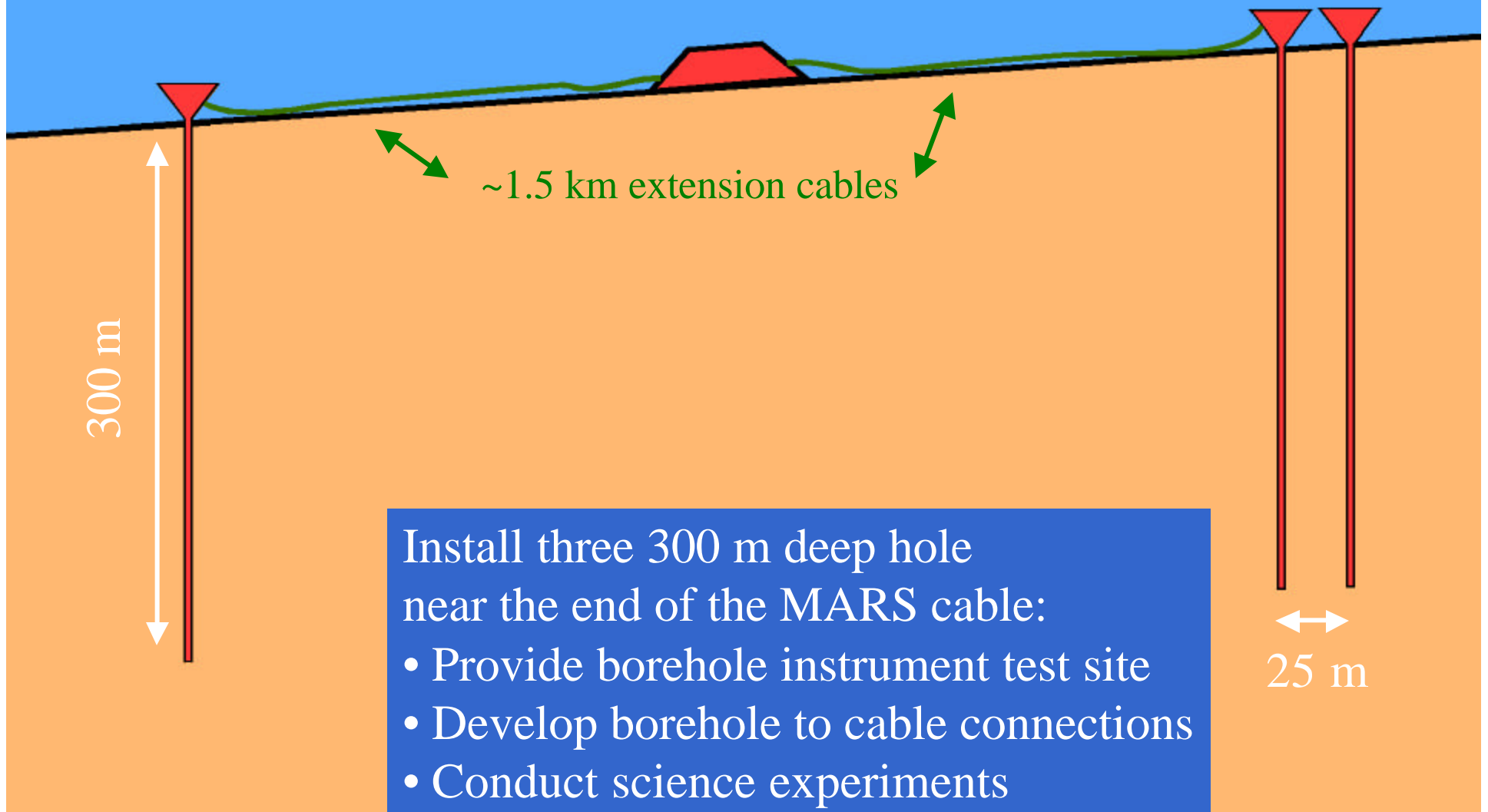


# Proposed IODP Bore Hole Test Facility

Seismology  
Borehole

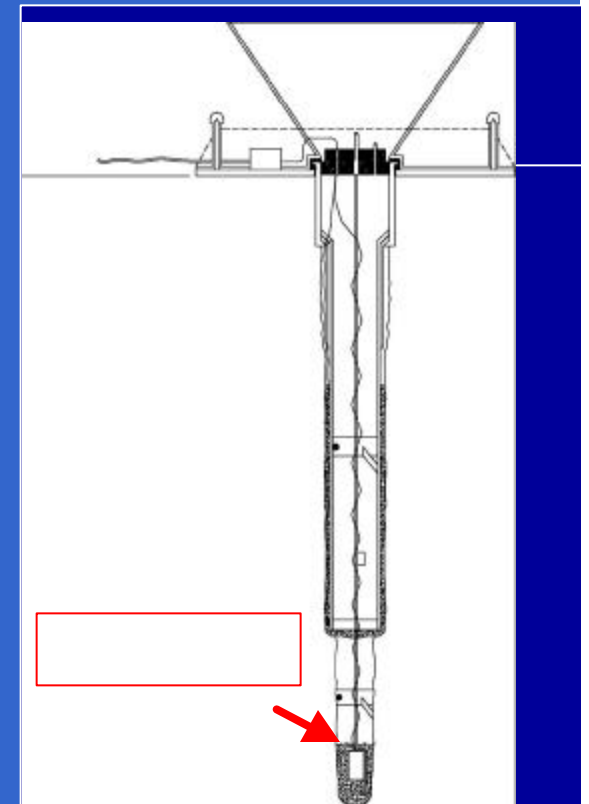
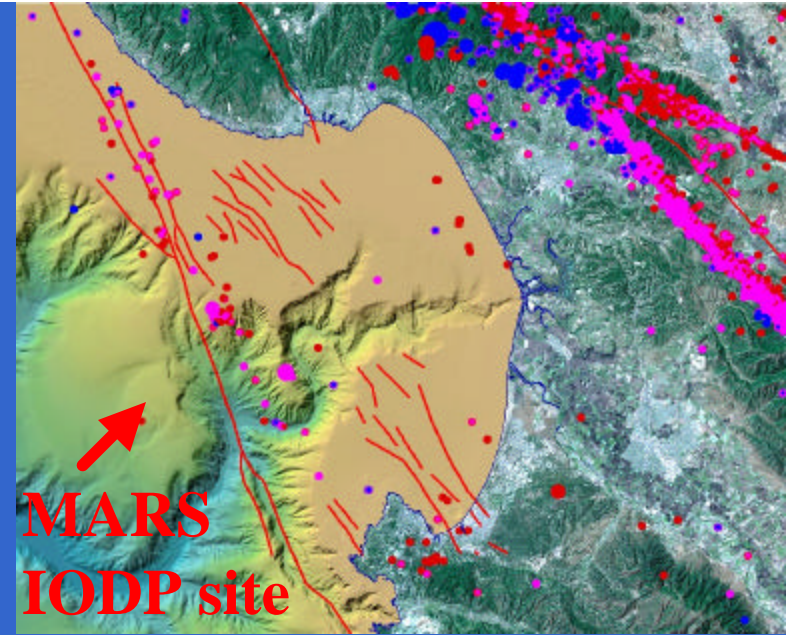
MARS  
node

Hydrology  
Boreholes

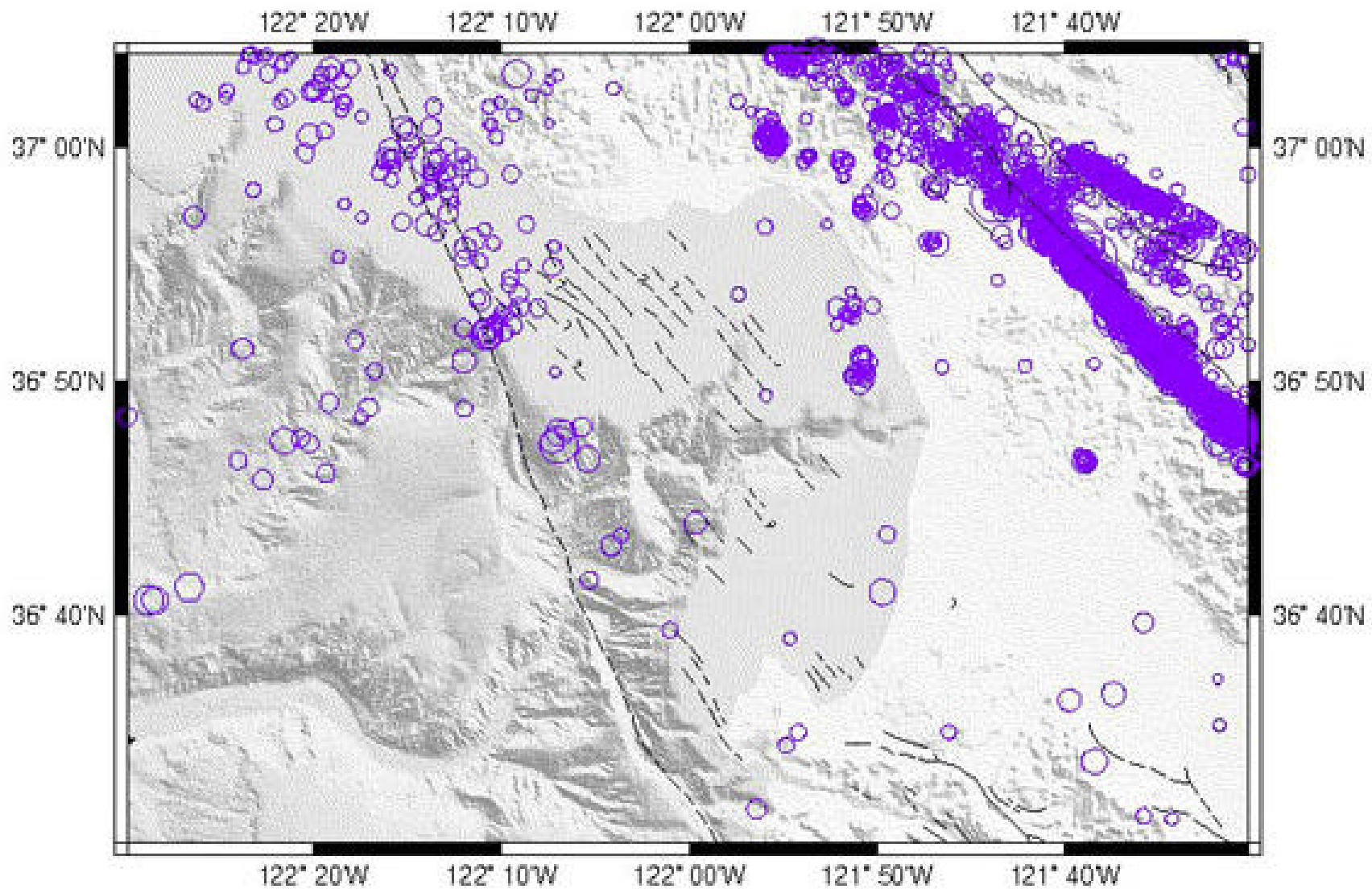


## Seismology Site (IODP proposal)

- ~300 m deep holes with modified
- Borehole Instrument Hanger
- 1.5 km down slope of MARS node
- Install Broad Band Seismometer
- Located ~8 km to the west of San Gregorio Fault
- Entirely on the Pacific Plate
- Connection with MARS cable provides real-time link to global seismic network

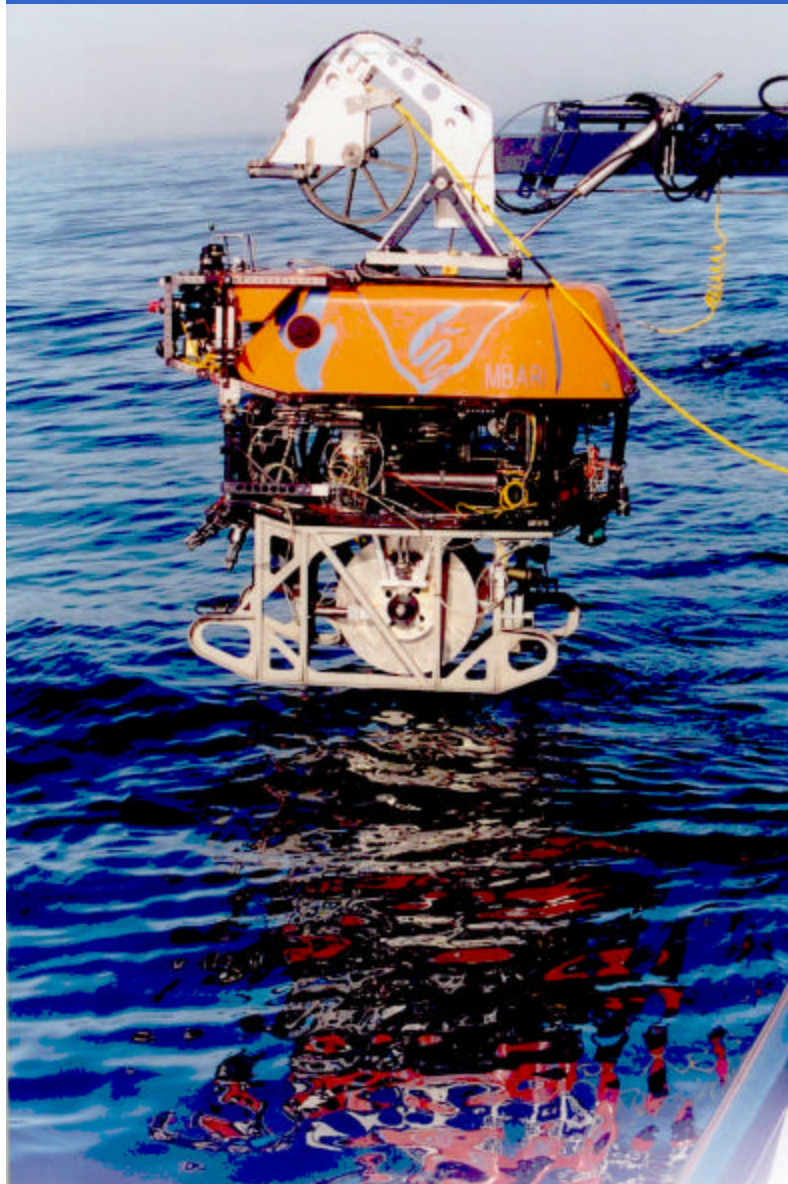


# SEISMICITY OF MONTEREY BAY 1990-1997

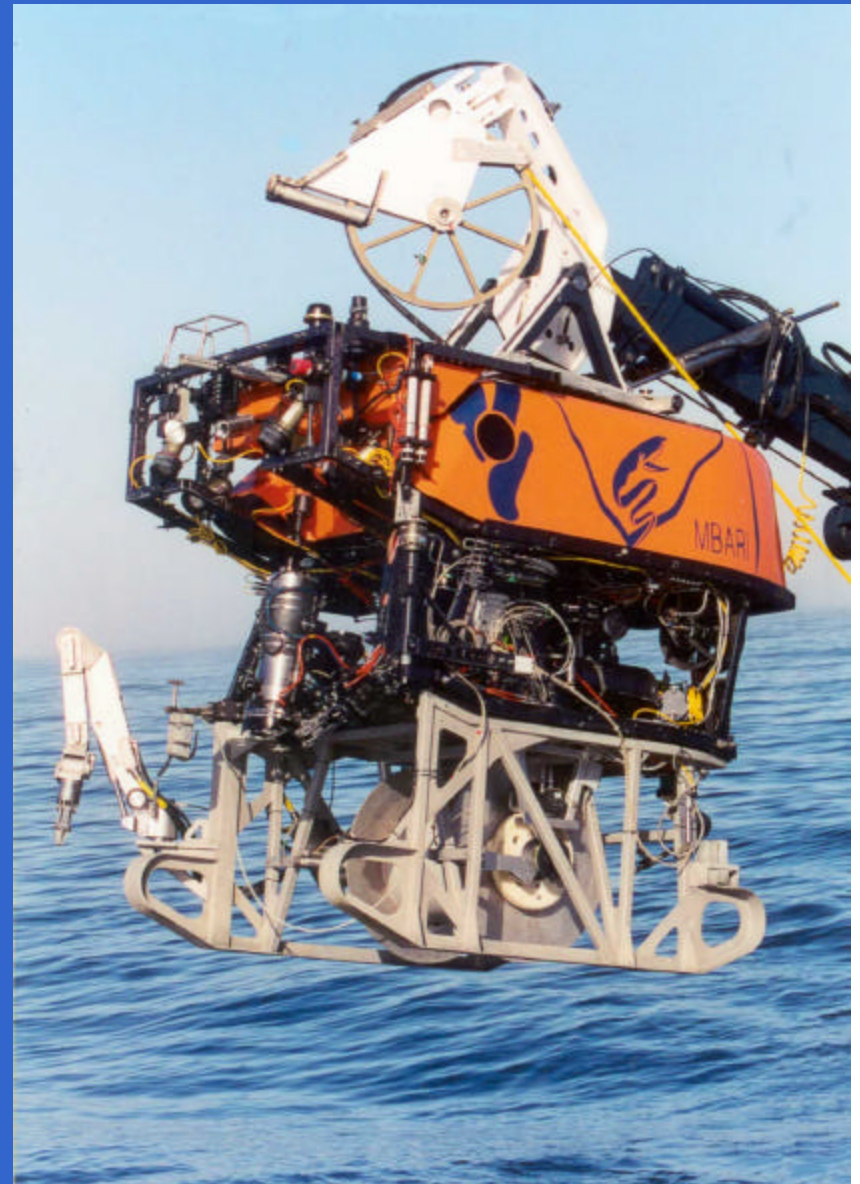




# The ROV *Ventana* with cable laying toolsled



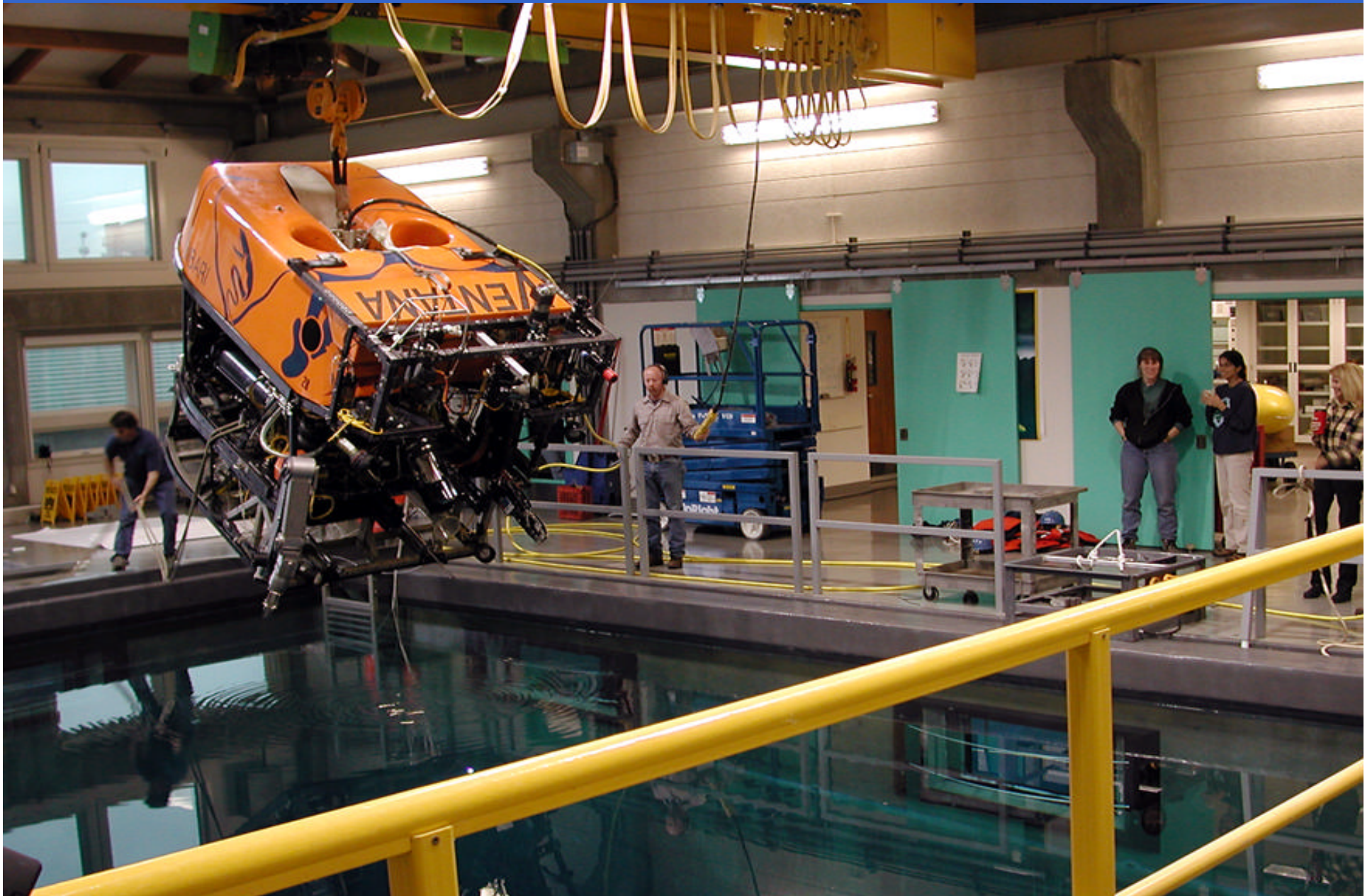
4000  
to  
5000  
meter  
sections  
of fiber  
optic  
cable  
per run

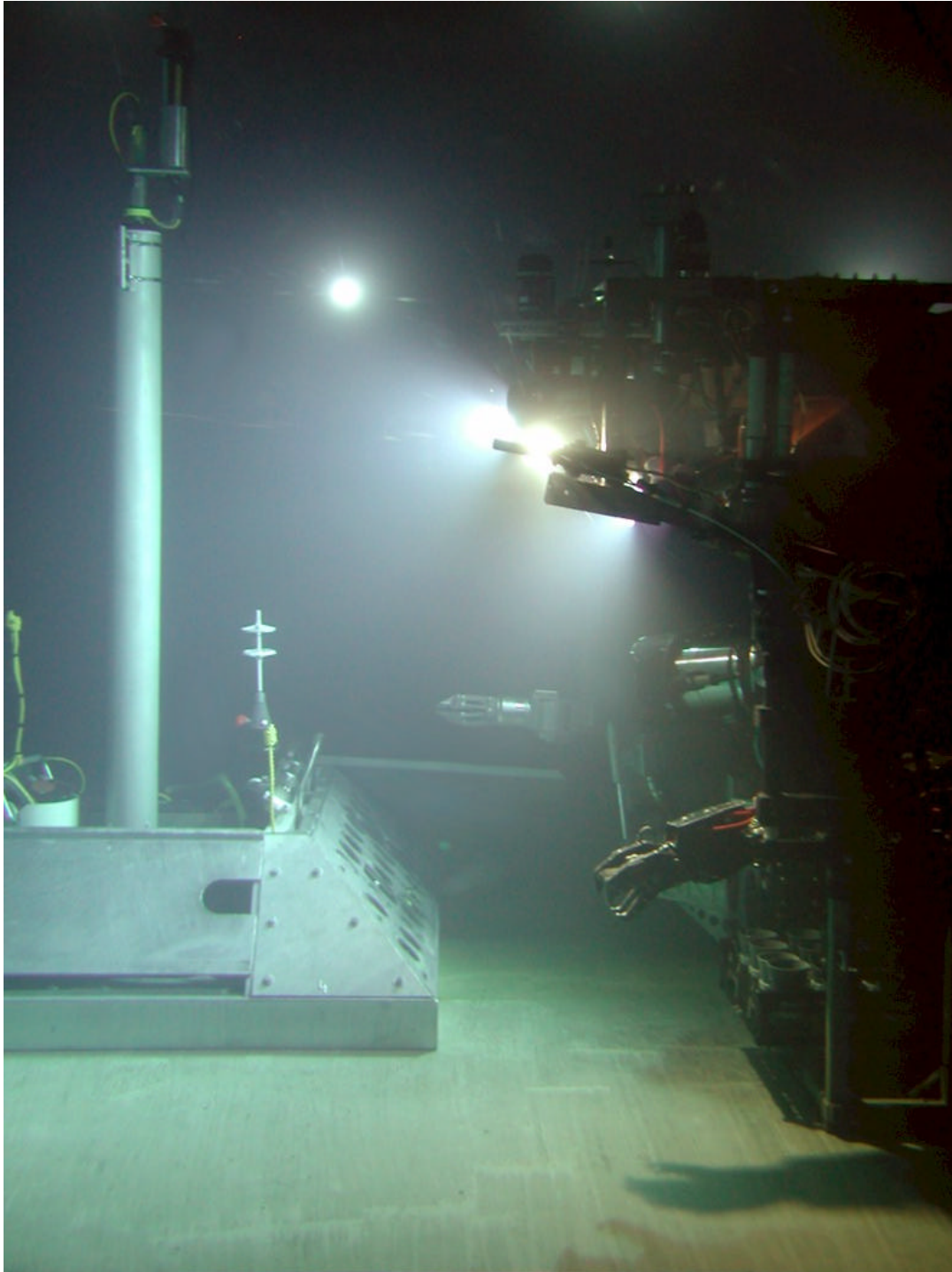


# Cable Laying with Tiburon



# Science Instrument Testing – MBARI Test Tank





After science instrumentation has been bench tested for compliance to MARS power and telemetry protocols, we can test the best ways to emplace the instruments using the ROVs *Ventana* or *Tiburon* in the MBARI test tank.

# MARS and ORION

- MARS is designed to be a testbed for observatory technology
- The MBARI assumption is that ownership, maintenance and operation of MARS will eventually transition to ORION.

# MARS Contacts

## MARS Facility

- Gene Massion – MARS Facility CO-PI (Technical)  
[magene@mbari.org](mailto:magene@mbari.org)
- Steve Etchemendy – MARS Facility CO-PI (Operations)  
[etst@mbari.org](mailto:etst@mbari.org)
- Craig Dawe – ROV Operations  
[dacr@mbari.org](mailto:dacr@mbari.org)

## MARS Project (Design and Build)

- Jim Bellingham – Organizational
- Keith Raybould – MARS Project Manager
- Gene Massion – MARS System Engineer