

Minewarfare Again in the Gulf

Cheap, basic mines disrupt international shipping

Mines are the ultimate weapon of asymmetric warfare weapon in naval operations. Whether buried, tethered, concealed or drifting they have the ability to deny access to a choke point, harbour, amphibious landing site, or even to deep water passages. Moreover, even the possibility of mines being in a location needs to be treated as if mines are actually present until determined otherwise.

“It’s much easier to lay a mine than to clear a mine,” according to Scott Stavitz, a senior engineer at the RAND Corporation. “It’s very hard to prevent mining,” said Stavitz. “The main signature associated with mining is a splash. It’s very difficult to detect.”

“The US does have mine countermeasure capabilities in the Gulf like Avenger-class mine countermeasure ships, helicopters, and divers,” according to Stavitz, but the US Navy doesn’t focus on countering mine warfare.

While the US Navy isn’t outrightly weak against mines, “it’s never been a cool warfare area,” he said. “It’s typically on the order of 1% of the navy’s budget and the mine warfare community has been pushing for more attention for years.”



[Read More: Mines the ultimate asymmetric warfare weapon](#)

OG05 Teledyne Reson SeaBat® T20P Deployment & Integration Kit

Fast & Easy Deployment of SeaBat® T20P Multi-Beam Echo Sounder

The OG05 Teledyne Reson T20P Integration Kit provides for fast deployment and easy integration of the SeaBat® T20P Multi Beam Echo Sounder (MBES) into small boats or other survey vessels.

The complete OG05 Teledyne Reson T20P Integration Kit is re-packaged from multiple shipping boxes to just four rugged and transportable “Pelican” type cases. Each case weighs less than 32kg (70lb) and is fitted with wheels for easy manoeuvring through airports. A survey crew can deploy on commercial airlines using standard baggage allowances for T20P transport. The crew arrives at the same time as the equipment without complicated shipment arrangements.



[Read More: The T20P – Now Truly Portable](#)

Saab Seaeye wins the 2019 UTC Subsea Award for Subsea Vehicle Deep Water Residency

Field resident 3000m-rated Sabretooth Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV)

BlueZone Group is pleased to congratulate Saab Seaeye as winners of the 2019 UTC Subsea Award.

Saab achieved a world first in subsea vehicle deep water residency capability, proving the potential for marine autonomous systems to take a greater role in underwater inspection, repair and maintenance methodologies.

Saab are the developers of the “Double Eagle” Mine Disposal System now operated by the Royal Australian Navy for twenty years. The Double Eagle system was also a world first in adapting flight control software for underwater vehicle applications and enabling a powerful and flexible “helicopter” flight control pattern for underwater manoeuvring, inspection and mine disposal. It is ideally suited to the harsh conditions for MCM:Disposal required to ensure freedom to manoeuvre in Australia’s maritime areas of interest.



[Read More: World first in subsea vehicle deep water residency](#)

[Read More: Remotely Operated Vehicles for Real-time Intervention](#)

Approved Technical Support Agency

Defence SME and a part of the “workforce behind the Defence force”



BlueZone Group is pleased to announce that the Principal Engineer of the Mine Clearance Diving System Program Office (MCDSPPO) has designated BlueZone Group as an Approved Technical Support Agency.

BlueZone CEO, Neil Hodges, said that the support of unmanned and remotely-operated vehicles for Navy applications would become increasingly important. “It is interesting to note that as increasingly sophisticated robotic systems are fielded by the Defence force, then the skill-level required to operate, maintain and upgrade these systems increases,” said Neil. “We are proud of the capability we have developed in nearly twenty years of support for the MCDSPPO and the Minehunter Coastal ships and we look forward with excitement to supporting Navy and Defence in the future application of robotics to Navy missions.”

[Read More: Support for the Saab “Double Eagle” Mine Disposal System](#)

Society for Underwater Technology – Evening Technical Meeting

The Future of Subsea Autonomy

At the Society for Underwater Technology Evening Technical Meeting on 12 June 2019 in Perth, presentations were made by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and Marine Advanced Robotics. The common theme of the presentations centred on the Wave Adaptive Modular Vessel (WAM-V) - an innovative class of watercraft (both autonomous and manned) using unique suspension technology to radically improve seagoing capabilities. The articulating system uses springs, shocks and ball joints to minimize structural loading. The result is an ULTRA-LIGHT, MODULAR vessel that can perform in sea conditions where an ordinary boat of similar size could no longer operate. The incredibly SHALLOW DRAFT and arches contribute to the GANTRY CRANE functionality.



[Read More: The Future of Subsea Autonomy](#)

Events

Please join BlueZone Group at these upcoming events!

We are keen to talk to you about how innovative new technologies offered by BlueZone can solve issues for your challenges in Australia's oceans, coastal seas, and rivers.

We are happy to answer your questions and arrange on-site demonstrations and further discussion if required.

Hunter Defence Industry Showcase - 22 to 23 August - Hunter Valley

BlueZone is pleased to present at the Hunter Defence Industry Showcase as part of the 2019 Hunter Defence Conference to be held at Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley. As a featured company at this Showcase, the progression of BlueZone Group to involvement with Defence Industry will be highlighted including:

- The journey into Defence Industry, including entry points into Defence Supply Chains;
- Capabilities and quality of business (benefits of Defence);
- Skills and workforce changes and future skillset demands; and,
- Project Case Study

WA Indo-Pacific Defence Forum - 12 August - Perth

The program will focus on 'new and emerging partnerships' and this theme will also explore the evolving role of technology and WA's STEM agenda. High-level representations will include Admiral Scott Swift, former Commander, US Pacific Fleet and The Honourable Mark Lippert, Vice President of Boeing International.

New Products & Services



EOM Offshore - Sample Products Now Available in Australia

Innovative product portfolio for many ocean monitoring and mooring applications

BlueZone Group is pleased to announce that sample EOM Offshore Electro-Mechanical Cables are now available for demonstration in Australia.



Contact BlueZone for further information and to arrange demonstration of the capability for compliant or non-compliant connection with seafloor assets including:

- Patented Electro-Mechanical Cables
- Marine Recovery Systems
- Universal Joints

[Read More](#)

ZB03 Z-Boat Battery

The ZB03 Z-Boat Battery (ITEM 18235) provides a “Made In Australia” option for powering your Z-Boat or Q-Boat.



Providing a 24V 10Ah power supply from NiMH battery cells, the ZB03 has been tested to show similar performance to overseas manufactured batteries.

[Read More](#)



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Aggressive research by General Oceanics’ highly competitive staff has resulted in a product line with an outstanding reputation in the field. The General Oceanics logo is seen throughout the world and is associated with numerous successful programs conducted by many oceanographic research organisations. Close collaboration with the oceanographic community and attention to detail in design, fabrication and quality control assure researchers of a rugged, efficient, low maintenance product. These same qualities place General Oceanics in high esteem with users and competitors alike.



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