

Marine-i event to launch new tool in High Frequency Radar

On Tuesday 16th October, Marine-i will stage a Discovery Room event which will focus on the use of High Frequency (HF) Radar in marine technology and launch an innovative new web visualisation tool created by the University of Plymouth. Businesses based in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly will be able to use the HF Radar tool free of charge to help develop exciting new products and services.

Part funded by the European Regional Development Fund, Marine-i provides support for marine technology businesses operating in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Its Discovery Room events bring together the very latest thinking on a specific theme of marine technology.

The Ocean Science team at the University of Plymouth has installed a HF Radar system along the north coast of Cornwall, which provides spatial measurements of waves and currents in real time. The use of HF Radar for wave measurements is a fast-evolving field of marine science, and the University team are at the cutting edge of this technology.

Delegates will hear from expert speakers on the uses and capabilities of HF Radar, as well as hear about the unique new web visualisation tool which has been developed by the University of Plymouth team and is now entering beta testing. This tool will allow users to access the current and historic data from the University's HF Radar station, by defining the geographical areas and date ranges that are of interest.

Alex Whatley, Knowledge Exchange Officer at University of Plymouth, says: "This is a really exciting development in the field of HF Radar, which will have a valuable role to play in helping us to use our offshore renewable energy resources to their full potential, as well as many other fields. Our event is a perfect opportunity for marine businesses to get up to speed on the latest applications for HF Radar and to talk directly to the experts. Delegates will also be able to identify potential projects which could be supported through the University of Plymouth researchers and technicians that are dedicated to their HF Radar station."

The event will take place at Tremough Innovation Centre at Penryn. Businesses can reserve their free place at by visiting: www.marine-i.co.uk/events

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For further info, please email lynn@brandinnovation.co.uk or call Lynn File on 01208 821787

NOTES FOR EDITORS

About Marine-i

Part funded by the European Regional Development Fund, Marine-i is a £9.3m collaboration between the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth, The Cornwall College Group, Cornwall Marine Network, Cornwall Development Company and the Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult. It brings together key infrastructure and expertise to enable technology innovation in the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly's marine sector, which has been identified as an area of high growth potential by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership. Full details can be seen at:

www.marine-i.co.uk

About the European Regional Development Fund

Marine-i has received £6,851,462 of funding from the England European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. The Department for Communities and Local Government is the Managing Authority for the European Regional Development Fund. Established by the European Union, the European Regional Development Fund helps local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations. For more information visit:

www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding

About The Marine Challenge Fund

This is a delegated marine grant scheme that has been specifically designed to drive marine sector research, development and innovation and help bring new marine products, processes and services to market. Subject to eligibility, reimbursable grants of £2,000 to £150,000 are available for projects with growth potential. Businesses can also now access Rapid Innovation Grants. These are 100% grants of up to £2,000 to help accelerate their innovation. The money can be used to purchase services or equipment to help take their ideas or innovation to the next level. For more information see:

www.marine-i.co.uk/services#grants

About High Frequency Radar

High Frequency (HF) radar technology has developed quite slowly compared with some other technologies- but is set to accelerate in the years ahead. Discovery of the phenomenon of Bragg Scatter from the ocean surface was achieved in 1955 but a theoretical description was not achieved until 1971. Late in the 1980s, commercial HF radars appeared and applications started to emerge relating to surface current and wave height mapping as well as wind parameters. Hundreds of HF radar systems are now deployed around the world to monitor the coastal oceans. The current trends in HF radar are towards high spatial and temporal precision for monitoring natural events like tsunamis and storm surges. The next decade will see the emphasis of HF radar development move towards real-time monitoring for coastal ocean operations. Navigation for shipping in and near ports will also become more important with increased ship traffic and autonomous vessels.