

BOT Press Release: March 11, 2004

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AUGMENTS MVP ACQUISITION WITH LASER OPTICAL PLANKTON COUNTER (LOPC)

Brooke Ocean Technology is pleased to announce the sale of a Laser Optical Plankton Counter (LOPC) along with additional instrumentation and a Multi-Sensor Free Fall Fish to the *University of Hawaii*.

The instrumentation and fish will augment an earlier order received from the University of Hawaii for an MVP300-3400 system complete with a Multi-Sensor Free-Fall Fish and CTD.



The funding for the purchase was provided by the University of Hawaii and NSF.

The **Moving Vessel Profiler 300 (MVP300)** will be delivered to Hawaii for installation aboard the "Kilo Moana" in June of 2004.



The MVP300 will find multiple uses aboard the vessel:

1. CTD casts to calibrate the multibeam sounders aboard.
2. Deploy and recover "Wax Corers" while on station.
3. Collection of plankton abundance and classification of plankton through use of the **Laser Optical Plankton Counter (LOPC)** and other sensors while underway at 12 knots.

The MVP is an underway CTD or sound velocity profiling system which permits near vertical data profiles to be collected with the use of a recoverable free fall fish. The system includes a computer-controlled smart winch and deployment system that permits the free fall fish to be deployed while the vessel is underway. MVP is completely automated, can be operated by computer without the requirement for personnel on deck and can provide real time sound velocity input into a multi-beam sounder.

The free fall fish can also be equipped with a variety of sensors, including a sound velocity probe, fluorometer and plankton counter. For multibeam surveys, MVP saves a minimum of 3 hours per day of ship time by eliminating the requirement to stop and complete a static cast. Significant savings in multibeam data processing can be realized through improved data quality.

BOT is a Canadian-based manufacturer of sensor platforms, cable handling systems and launch/recovery systems. Other MVP systems are in use in Canada, USA, Japan, China, Ireland and Norway.

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