

Old and New

It's with great pleasure that I write this first editorial of the new year 2015, although we are still in the last days of the old year. 2015 will again be a year in which Hydro International will bring you monthly updates on news and developments in the world of hydrography – and of course you can find all the news, every day, on the website www.hydro-international.com. The word 'world' is not only taken literally - while we try to report from different corners from our globe, we also physically and digitally send our magazine to all those corners as well.

A new year ahead in which we will try to shed light on all aspects of hydrography, old and new, brought to you by our editors – also old and new. I wouldn't dare to make the comparison myself, but because Andreasen brought it up, I think I can: like the two grumpy old men of the Muppet show, Statler and Waldorf, RADM Angrisano and RADM Andreasen give their views on hydrography from the balcony. Both former presidents of the International Hydrographic Bureau, they give an update from Monaco. Chris Andreasen reports in his Insiders' View column on page 6 on what he sees as the most important decision taken during the 5th Extraordinary Hydrographic Conference held last October in Monaco: the adoption of 'Crowdsourced Bathymetry'. Giuseppe Angrisano already gave a broad overview in the Visited for You column of Hydro International's last issue of 2014. On a side note, I know that the comparison only holds for the part of looking down from the balcony of the hall of hydrography, giving valuable comments for the younger generations. Both men are far from grumpy and not at all old! I am grateful that they chose Hydro International to share their views!

Our editor Marck Smit went down to Woods Hole, Massachusetts, United States, to interview Mike Purcell, principal engineer at the Oceanographic Systems Laboratory of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (see page 9). Purcell is the man whose team finally found the wreckage of flight AF447, which went down in the Atlantic Ocean off Brazil in 2011. A story that is still very current, taking into account the disappearance of flight MH370, which has still not been found in the vast sea areas of the Indian Ocean west of Australia, and as I write this, a new drama is unfolding as AirAsia flight QZ8501 went missing in the Java Sea off the coast of Indonesia. Hydrography sees itself placed at the forefront of the dramatic task of looking for the wrecks of these planes and giving answers to the many questions on the causes of the incidents. A dramatic task that becomes gratifying when successful – and the bereaved finally receive information on the last resting places of their family, the victims of the disaster.

I am sure this year's first issue of Hydro International will make for an interesting read; not just the above-mentioned pieces, but also the other articles and news items. I would like to end this first editorial of 2015 by wishing you a safe, successful, healthy and optimistic new year!