

WASSP Announces Solutions to Improve Sounder and Sonar Systems



WASSP, the professional multibeam sounder that delivers water column and seabed profiling with 224 beams offering significant improvements in speed and accuracy over conventional singlebeam echosounders, has announced the launch of an innovative new Key Pulse and patent-pending Interference Management System including automated frequency and bandwidth algorithm.

One major problem faced by manufacturers of sonar systems is that underwater environments are often noisy due to other acoustic devices operating in the same local body of water. Noise levels or interference caused by interoperating acoustic equipment vary widely depending on the operating parameters of the equipment and the water column. This noise interferes with accurate underwater detection and makes it difficult,

both for the sonar device and for the user, to interpret an underwater environment.

Changing frequency and bandwidth

It is an object of at least some embodiments of the invention to provide a sonar system with an improved interference management system that allows for the automatic and dynamic adjustment of the operating settings of a sonar system to optimally avoid interference from interoperating acoustic equipment.

By taking the standard Key Pulse and adding to it, WASSP's new software enables all sounder and sonar systems, regardless of manufacturer, to operate significantly more efficiently.

Rufus Whiteford, WASSP's global marketing manager, commented that their Key Pulse and Interference Management System is set to transform the operating environment for fishing and workboats using any sonar system. It's an excellent example of the WASSP tradition of finding innovative solutions to marine industry problems. Stefan Richardson, WASSP's CTO, added that The WASSP R&D department is very proud to be able to release this latest WASSP system that will make a difference to the full Acoustic Equipment Suite performance for many fishing vessels all over the world.

Surveying and mapping

WASSP systems are used extensively for fishing, surveying and mapping, and a range of other activities, its multibeam sounder technology highlights individual and schools of fish in the water columns and reefs, wrecks, foreign objects and seafloor hardness changes on the seafloor. This development allows these multibeam sounders considered by mathematicians as fulfilling the perfect sounder equation to work on vessels with an array of other sounders and sonar. WASSP's international loyal customers can benefit from this development by contacting their local authorised WASSP dealer and requesting a remote acoustic survey where a WASSP expert will advise on the best solution for individual vessels.

Example from a trial vessel

Vessel had FSV-84 80kHz Sonar, CH37 162kHz Sector Sonar, CI68 244kHz Current indicator, FCV-1500 15/200kHz Sounder and WASSP 160kHz. This means with the 2nd Harmonic of the FSV-84, the CH37 and WASSP all transmitting at about 160kHz the subsea acoustic is very busy and difficult for any to operate at optimum.