

Power to the Operator



A more powerful ROV has been launched by Saab Seaeye. The Panther XT Plus, rated for operation to a depth of 1,500m, is the latest addition to the Panther range, and with two systems already sold for delivery in the first quarter of 2011 this latest version is generating interest in the ROV market.

The new ROV gives operators about double the horizontal thruster power compared with the Panther XT. Its power to weight ratio is also over twice its nearest competitor providing exceptional response and precise control.

Packed with ten powerful thrusters, not only can it swim over 30% faster than anything else of its type, but it can hold steady in strong cross currents, making it an ideal vehicle for survey work. The availability of ten thrusters also brings peace of mind to operators working to a tight deadline or in difficult conditions by offering a reassuringly high degree of redundancy.

The front of the Panther XT Plus has been re-designed to accommodate industry-standard seven function position feedback manipulators providing the operator with heavy duty power and precise control allowing faster completion of complex manipulator tasks.

To accommodate the larger and heavier manipulator arms and provide additional capacity to fit further tools and sensors the vehicle payload has been significantly increased over the standard Panther XT.

The new model can carry a greater range of tooling options for a wider range of tasks, including work, observation and survey, all in a small footprint.

This need for less deck space, around a quarter of an equivalent hydraulic vehicle, together with fewer crew and lower vehicle cost, gives an overall lower cost of ownership that lies behind the success of the long established Panther range, a design concept that can match an hydraulic equivalent in most work tasks including drill support, IRM, survey and some construction tasks.

<https://www.hydro-international.com/content/news/power-to-the-operator>
