

WHOI Deep-Sea Hybrid Vehicle Nereus

Nereus, a mythical god with a fish tail and a man's torso, was chosen as the name of a new deep-sea vehicle under construction at the [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution \(WHOI\)](#). The vehicle will be able to work in the deepest parts of the ocean, from 6,500 metres to 11,000 metres, a depth currently unreachable for routine ocean research. Scientists also plan to use it to explore remote, difficult-to-reach areas, including under the Arctic ice cap. Nereus can be transformed from a free-swimming vehicle for wide-area ocean surveys to a vehicle tethered by a cable to a surface ship for close-up investigation and sampling of seafloor rocks and organisms. The \$5-million, battery-operated vehicle will be the first ever designed to transform from a guided, tethered robot to a free-swimming vehicle. Nereus keeps with a tradition in the WHOI Deep Submergence Laboratory of naming vehicles for mythical Greek figures.

<https://www.hydro-international.com/content/article/whoi-deep-sea-hybrid-vehicle-nereus>
