PRESS RELEASE:

NERC Purchase NORBIT WBMS Systems for AUV Project

Aberdeen UK: NORBIT is proud to announce its appointment by the National Environmental Research Council (NERC) to supply two multi-beam echosounder (MBES) sonar systems primarily for use on the National Oceanography Centre's (NOC) new 2000m depth rated AUV platform Autosub2KUI for under-ice exploration. This will support future under-ice and deep-sea science, including a number of upcoming major marine research programmes.

With the small form factor WBMS Deep Water multibeam systems, NORBIT will ensure high data quality and ease of operation for the team at NOC often operating in challenging environmental conditions. A robust system which has proven itself with regards under-ice mapping was required and NORBIT are pleased support NOC with leading technology.

About NORBIT

NORBIT is an international, knowledge-based corporation, head quartered in Trondheim Norway, that continuously designs, develops and manufactures high technology products, systems and solutions to meet customers´ changing needs. With the spirit of explorers, NORBIT engineers have pioneered ground breaking solutions within a wide range of applications. NORBIT Subsea delivers wideband multibeam sonars both for bathymetric and forward looking market operations, providing wide-coverage monitoring combined with high sensitivity and accuracy. Based in Aberdeen, the UK office provides sales and support for NORBIT Subsea and partner companies.

For further information please contact john.fraser@norbit.com or reference www.norbit.com/subsea

About Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)

NERC is the UK's main agency for funding and managing research, training and knowledge exchange in the environmental sciences.

NERC's work covers the full range of atmospheric, Earth, biological, terrestrial and aquatic science, from the deep oceans to the upper atmosphere and from the poles to the equator.

The organisation coordinates some of the world's most exciting research projects, tackling major issues such as climate change, environmental influences on human health, the genetic make-up of life on Earth, and much more.
Working internationally, NERC have bases at some of the most hostile places on the planet; running a fleet of research ships and aircraft and investing in satellite technology to monitor gradual environmental change on a global scale. NERC provide forewarning of, and solutions to, the key environmental challenges facing society.

About the National Oceanography Centre (NOC)

The National Oceanography Centre (NOC) is the UK's leading institution for integrated coastal and deep ocean research. NOC undertakes and facilitates world-class agenda-setting scientific research to understand the global ocean by solving challenging multidisciplinary, large scale, long-term marine science problems to underpin international and UK public policy, business and wider society outcomes.

NOC operates the Royal Research Ships James Cook and Discovery and develops technology for coastal and deep ocean research. Working with its partners NOC provides long-term marine science capability including: sustained ocean observing, mapping and surveying; data management and scientific advice.

NOC operates at two sites, Southampton and Liverpool, with the headquarters based in Southampton.

Among the resources that NOC provides on behalf of the UK are the British Oceanographic Data Centre (BODC), the Marine Autonomous and Robotic Systems (MARS) facility, the National Tide and Sea Level Facility (NTSLF), the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (PSMSL) and British Ocean Sediment Core Research Facility (BOSCORF)

The National Oceanography Centre is wholly owned by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC).