



WIRED OCEAN

Applications: Satcom Network Elements

"Compared to commonly used existing systems the Wired Ocean system has the potential to increase Internet access speeds at sea by a factor of ten and to reduce costs by a factor of 70% to 90%."

Victor Barendse, Project Manager, Actinus



PRIME CONTRACTOR:

Wired Ocean
301B Harbour Yard
Chelsea Harbour
London SW10 0XD
United Kingdom
<http://www.actinus.com>

CONTACT WIRED OCEAN:

Victor Barendse
Project Manager
Email: vbarendse@wiredocean.com
Phone: +44 20 8440 6254
Fax: +44 20 7751 5516

PROJECT PARTNER:

Hollycroft Associates (UK)

PROFILE:

Wired Ocean's objective is to significantly improve the availability of Internet access from ships at sea. Compared to commonly used existing systems the Wired Ocean system has the potential to increase Internet access speeds by a factor of ten and to reduce costs by a factor of 70% to 90%.

The chosen technology is a 'hybrid' of broadband Ku-band satellites for the downlink and narrowband mobile satellites (or cellular) for the return channel. Wired Ocean has already developed a specialised client server (the Wired Ocean Satellite Broadband Server) to manage the communications sessions at the ship end. The server interfaces to a tracking TV receive only (TVRO) antenna to receive the downlink and to a narrowband terminal for the return channel. Many ships already have either a TVRO antenna or narrowband terminal or both.

The objective of the project is to implement a DVB downlink service, integrate it with the client server, develop features to minimise the overall cost of use and implement support functions. Wired Ocean will need to meet a number of requirements that are unique to the maritime industry including coverage of water rather than land, providing Internet access at an orbital location that also has popular television programming, and providing service to remote locations that have minimal IT support.

Once operational the system will be trialled by ten vessels over a six month period. The trial will enable us to demonstrate the performance and stability of the system and well as to meet and resolve the issues that only become apparent in real world operation.