

Oct 12, 2020 11:00 BST

Oceanology International 2020 goes virtual; Oceanology International Americas postponed

Oceanology International 2020 is to be held virtually, bypassing the current doubts over worldwide travel and quarantine restrictions whilst bringing the Oceanology community together in a fresh, innovative way through the Oi Connect events and meetings platform. Moving to a virtual exhibition ensures that it will be open to everyone, sidestepping travel times and logistics and uniting the global ocean tech audience.

Event organisers Reed Exhibitions have also postponed Oi Americas – originally planned to be held in San Diego in February 2021 – until 2023. Oi Connect 2020 will instead serve a worldwide audience in what promises to be the largest coming-together of the ocean technology sector since restrictions began, joining the best of both shows in a single, truly international event.

“The announcement by the UK Government that exhibitions will continue to be disallowed, combined with global uncertainty as the coronavirus pandemic continues, have confirmed our decision to move forward to 100% virtual with Oi Connect and to postpone Oi Americas,” said David Ince, Events Director, Reed Exhibitions. *“While it is disappointing to temporarily relinquish the undisputed benefits of physical meetings, demonstrations and networking opportunities, we need to take collective responsibility for the safety of our exhibitors, visitors and staff.”*

“The team at Oi are well advanced in converting their two years of planning for the physical event into a unique and exciting opportunity to showcase the global marine science and oceanology community in a different, virtual way. We wholeheartedly look forward to blazing a new trail in virtual events with Oi”

Connect, aiding the industry in moving forward and demonstrating how resilient we can be.”

Oi Connect is an AI driven meetings and virtual event platform, going far beyond conventional videoconferencing facilities and building on the core values of physical Oceanology events to create a forum in which participants can discover innovation, learn about the latest developments in the maritime industry, attend presentations and hold face-to-face conversations. Once a registered attendee for the event has created their personal profile, this powerful tool will assist in finding valuable networking connections and generating high quality 1-2-1 meetings. They will be able to search visitors and exhibitors, identify key contacts based on their areas of interest and job types, build relationships and create business opportunities – resulting in a pre-planned roster of private virtual meetings throughout the event. A team of matchmaking professionals will support the service, assisting with arrangements, aiding with any technical questions and managing the online meetings lounge.

Oi Connect will also facilitate the Oceanology conferences, which provide technical and business insights and an opportunity to explore how connections can help underpin and grow the industry.

Oi Connect will be launching to Exhibitors and Visitors shortly and is open for anyone to attend virtually. The Oi team will be sharing full details with the community soon, and will be on hand to support visitors and exhibitors in their use of the platform and to help maximise their engagement with the global maritime audience. To find out more, and to explore opportunities still available for exhibiting with Oi Connect, visit oceanologyinternational.com.

For further information, please contact:

David Ince

Event Director

Reed Exhibitions

Tel: +44 (0)20 8439 8878

david.ince@reedexpo.co.uk

David Pugh

Saltwater Stone

Tel: +44 (0)1202 669244

d.pugh@saltwater-stone.com

About the Oceanology International Portfolio

Oceanology International is the world's leading marine science and ocean technology exhibition and conference. Beginning its journey in the UK in 1969, Oi has established itself as a truly global portfolio, with events running in London, San Diego, Shanghai and Abu Dhabi.

Oceanology International offers a series of global and regional forums where industry, academia and government share knowledge and connect with the marine technology and ocean science community, improving their strategies for exploring, monitoring, developing and protecting the world's oceans.

The Oceanology International portfolio includes:

- **Oceanology International - London:** Oceanology International is the world's largest exhibition and conference dedicated to serving all professionals working in the global marine science and ocean technology sector. The first Oceanology International was held in Brighton, in 1970. Today, its home is at ExCeL London. The Oi 2020 exhibition is ending its 50th anniversary celebration and is expected to attract 500+ exhibiting companies and 8,000+ attendees from over 90 countries.
www.oceanologyinternational.com
- **Oceanology International Americas - San Diego:** Oi Americas is a growing regional showcase of technology solutions and services with an audience of 2,750 attendees from 30+ countries. The third edition is expected to take place in 2023.
www.oceanologyinternationalamericas.com
- **Oceanology International Middle East - Abu Dhabi:** The latest addition to the Oceanology portfolio of events will launch in September 2021 at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) and will focus on the Middle East and Indian Ocean

region's growing application of ocean technology across a variety of end-user sectors from Ocean Science to Aquaculture to Offshore Energy and more.

<https://www.oceanologyinternationalmiddleeast.com/en-gb.html>

About Reed Exhibitions

Reed Exhibitions is a leading global events business. It combines face-to-face with data and digital tools to help customers learn about markets, source products and complete transactions at over 500 events in almost 30 countries across 43 industry sectors, attracting more than 7 million participants.

Our events, organised by 35 global offices, leverage industry expertise, large data sets and technology to enable our customers to generate billions of dollars of revenues for the economic development of local markets and national economies around the world. ☒ ☒ Reed Exhibitions is part of RELX, a global provider of information-based analytics for professional and business customers. www.reedexhibitions.com