



Photo from Catch the Next Wave at Oceanology International 2016

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Oceanology International London: Parallel events add depth and vision to Oceanology International 2018 exhibition and conference

- A series of diverse but complementary showcases are set to make 2018's Oceanology International the most comprehensive forum in the event's 49 year history

The Oceanology International 2018 exhibition and conference, which runs

from 13th to 15th March at ExCel, London, promises to be a crucially significant occasion as organiser Reed Exhibitions looks to expand the event's remit.

The 24th edition of this biennial global forum will spotlight technological developments including robotics, advanced sensor technology and autonomous systems. The conference programme, meanwhile, will boast 11 free-to-attend technical tracks, all chaired by prominent industry figures.

However, in addition to the main schedule, the 2018 event will host an illuminating series of parallel showcases. The first of these, the **Ocean Futures Forum**, runs from 09.30-13.30 on Tuesday, 13 March 2018, and will consider long-term energy trends, ocean growth and diversification and sustainability. An introductory session will be followed by a discussion with keynote presenters including Claire Jolly (Head of the OECD Space Forum), Professor Ed Hill OBE (Executive Director, National Oceanography Centre) and Jim Hanlon (CEO, The Institute for Ocean Research Enterprise). A networking lunch will follow, and registration costs £100 + VAT.

Meanwhile, on Thursday, 15 March 2018 from 09.30-17.00, **Catch The Next Wave 2018: Frontiers of Exploration** is being organised in association with **The Explorers Club** and will assess the intrinsic relationship between exploration and technology and how each drives the other. The programme features paired presentations from industry experts discussing the role technology has played in man's ability to explore environments on the seafloor, in the oceans, on the oceans, over the oceans and into space and includes Gordon Campbell of the European Space Agency; diver, presenter and explorer Rory Golden, the first Irish diver to visit the site of RMS *Titanic*; and Dr Andone Lavery of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Registration costs £100 + VAT.

According to Catch the Next Wave 2018 chairman Ralph Rayner: *"This creatively stimulating conference will draw upon the combined insight and expertise of a range of leading explorers and ocean professionals to highlight demonstrable technological achievements that are aiding exploration and research while stressing the ongoing importance of technological progress."*

Complementing Oceanology International 2018's conference programme, **Ocean ICT Expo** will address the demand for marine and ocean IT, communications, satellite and data storage solutions, with hundreds of highly

targeted experts on hand. An additional seminar area will host presentations from global software, hardware and communication services professionals, applying ICT solutions to assist growth in ocean data acquisition, storage, transfer and analytics.

A further source of business-focused advice is provided by the **Investment, Trade & Innovation Theatre**. The 'Entrepreneurs' Advisory Workshop' is designed to lend assistance to entrepreneurs seeking partner funding: interested parties can even apply via the Oceanology International website to book 1-2-1 clinics with VC/PE technology investors. Applications must be received by 15 December 2017.

In addition, the theatre's 'New Technology Showcase' enables exhibitors to secure presentation slots to display their new products and technologies to the wider marine science community. For bookings and more information, contact Mark Lewis (mark.lewis@reedexpo.co.uk, Tel: + 44 (0)20 8439 8858).

Finally, the co-located **Interspill 2018** conference and exhibition will examine all aspects of future oil spills, including spill prevention, preparedness, response and restoration.

David Ince, Oceanology International Event Manager, Reed Exhibitions, comments: *"The addition of so many complementary parallel events and areas of content at Oceanology International 2018 alongside a world-class exhibition increases the benefits and value for all those attending and makes it an unrivalled shop window for pertinent and exciting developments in marine science and ocean technology."*

For more information about Oceanology International 2018 and to register, visit www.oceanologyinternational.com

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About the Oceanology International Portfolio

The Oceanology International portfolio of events offer a global forum where industry, academia and government share knowledge and connect with the marine technology and ocean science community, improving their strategies for measuring, exploiting, protecting and operating in the world's oceans. First established in 1969, the flagship event in London features the world's largest exhibition for marine science and technology, multiple agenda-setting technical conferences, and a visiting vessels and waterside demonstration program.

The Oceanology International portfolio includes:

- **Oceanology International China:** Developed with government and industry associations, Oceanology International China provides organizations with the opportunity to capitalize on China's rapidly growing offshore energy and marine industries.

With 215 exhibitors from 20 different countries, more than 5000 domestic and overseas professional attendees from 32 different countries and regions were attracted to OI China 2015. OI China 2017 (1-3 November) is excited to announce a move to Qingdao. Qingdao is the largest city in eastern Shandong Province on the east coast of China, the wealthiest city in Shandong Province, a demonstration area for marine ecology protection and a pilot city for marine technology and has key economic links with Ontario & British Columbia, Canada.

www.oichina.com.cn/en

- **Oceanology International:** Oceanology International is the leading conference and exhibition dedicated to serving all professionals working in the global ocean science and marine technology sector. The first Oceanology International was held in Brighton, in 1969. Today, its home is at ExCeL London. The OI2016 exhibition was the largest ever in the show's 47-year history with over 8,500m² occupied by 520 exhibiting companies from 33 countries. www.oceanologyinternational.com
- **Catch the Next Wave conference:** Now in its fifth edition, Catch the Next Wave is an exclusive conference taking place alongside or as part of the Oceanology International events globally. The most recent program in London took place at the prestigious Royal Institution, and the North American edition will form part of the OIA conference program on February 27th 2019. The event takes a longer-term view of the capabilities that will shape our future ability to explore, understand, exploit and protect the oceans. Catch the Next Wave 2018 is taking place alongside Oceanology International 2018 This one day programme (Thursday 15 March) will explore the future of disruptive exploratory technology and consider opportunities for technology transfer from outside the marine industry and is run in association with The Explorers Club.
www.ctnwconference.com
- **Oceanology International Americas** (February 25-27 2019, San Diego Convention Center, USA): The successful launch event of the biennial series took place in 2017.
www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com

About Reed Exhibitions

Reed Exhibitions is the world's leading events organizer, with over 500 events in 30 countries. In 2015, Reed brought together over seven million event participants from around the world generating billions of dollars in business. Today, Reed events are held throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Asia Pacific and Africa and organized by 40 fully staffed offices. Reed Exhibitions serves 43 industry sectors with trade and consumer events. It is part of the RELX Group plc, a world-leading provider of information solutions for professional customers across industries. www.reedexpo.com