

SERPENT scene

www.serpentproject.com
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Hitting the headlines

SERPENT Project Coordinator, Ian Hudson, was interviewed by anchorwoman Sally Taylor on BBC South Today at the end of September. They discussed the background to the project and some of the exciting footage in our galleries. Ian was also interviewed by ITV news following the release of photos of the giant squid.

The repeat of the BBC World Earth Report documentary at the end of September also sparked a flurry of interest in our work. The project was featured in a range of publications, from Les Echos, the french equivalent of the Financial Times, to Indian online newspaper newKerala.com.



Working together

A pioneer in the fields of natural history and indigenous studies research, the Australian Museum has joined SERPENT as a scientific collaborator. SERPENT images and videos from the Australia region missions will be hosted on the fishes section of the AM website, showcasing the species living in Australian waters. The AM will provide accurate taxonomic information for species observed. We hope links from both our sites will stimulate more interest in deep-sea studies in this area.



Meeting success!

The International Association for Drilling Contractors held its first Environmental Conference from the 12-14th October in Norway. As part of the event SERPENT held a very successful dedicated half day session on the results of the project, our collaborations and ideas for the future. More details on our website!



We also attended the 3rd Port Cros Symposium hosted by the Total Foundation in September. With the Foundation's theme for 2006-2009, Deep-Sea Biodiversity, SERPENT was showcased as a means to collect important data in the offshore environment. A new UK-led project with Total E&P UK is planned for 2006 looking at the Laggan Development.



Natural born film stars!

Over the last couple of months we have received some fantastic new ROV footage from around the world. We were fascinated by film of a 40 foot long siphonophore from the Gulf of Mexico, in addition to footage of a *Stygiomedusa fabulosa* jellyfish.



The Enfield site in the Australian region has yielded some brilliant footage in recent months. The world's largest bony fish, an ocean sunfish (*Mola mola*), was filmed investigating an ROV at 480m, and a hammerhead shark paid a visit at 512m - both of which seem to be a depth record! A cameo appearance by a broadbill swordfish and an inquisitive two-metre long squid are also amongst the wildlife filmed. Visit the gallery section on the website to take a look!



Gotcha! Giant squid on camera

Did you see the pictures of an adult giant squid (*Architeuthis*) taken by Japanese researchers in the headlines recently? The legendary deep-sea animal was captured on film in its natural habitat at 1000m depth. The bizarre creature has never been captured on video, nor a living specimen retrieved. Here at SERPENT we have high hopes that we might capture some valuable footage of the elusive animal - we are well-placed to do so! In the mean time, take a look at the footage of an unidentified species of squid taken in the Gulf of Mexico, together with the footage of *O. bartramii* in the Australian gallery on the website...



Win £500!! Enter our underwater image competition....



Bolocera sp. anemone
Barents Sea, Norway

Get your entries in! Recognising the value of good images in the development and understanding of science, the competition offers cash prizes in several categories - so quick, go and check your files! Full details of how to enter, rules and prizes can be found on our web pages at www.serpentproject.com/imagecomp.php

Send us more...!

Visit our website for all the latest news:
www.serpentproject.com

Do you have any questions, interesting stories, ideas or observations?

Share them with us! Email
1km@noc.soton.ac.uk

Send your images and footage to:
images@serpentproject.com



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