

CONFERENCE REPORT

International conference on underwater system technology: Theory and applications 2010

The 3rd International Conference on Underwater System Technology (USYS'10) was jointly organised by National Oceanography Directorate (NOD) and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), in collaboration with Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), and NISCAIR (India) at Cyberview Lodge Resort & Spa in Cyberjaya. This conference is a continuation from USYS'06 and USYS'08, which was held in Penang and Bali, respectively. USYS'10 was officiated by the Vice Chancellor (VC) of USM, Prof. Tan Sri Dato' Dzulkipli Abdul Razak. Also presents during the ceremony were the Director of NOD, Prof. Dr. Nor Aieni, Dean of School of Electrical and Electronics Engineering and General Chairman of USYS'10, Prof. Dr Zaid Abdullah, and the Organising Secretary for USYS'10, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rizal Arshad. About 100 researchers and professionals from various higher learning institutions, agencies and industries attended this conference. The conference was divided into four technical sessions; with every session has two concurrent sessions available for the participants to choose which session they are most interested to attend. In addition, six keynote speakers had presented their involvement and contributions in underwater technology field. Those keynote address

are as follows; 'Marine Acoustic –recent developments in the Indian Ocean' by Emeritus Prof. John Douglas Penrose, 'Overview: State of the Art-Underwater Technology' by Prof. Dr. Ir. Muljowidodo Kartidjo, 'Swarm Robot Systems' by Dr. Bala P. Amavasai, 'Biologically Inspired Robots: Snake-like, Spider-like Robots' by Prof. Shigeo Hirose, 'A soft Body Underactuated Approach to Multi Degree of Freedom Biomimetic Robots' by Dr. Pablo Valdia Alvarado, and 'Science and Global Security – The paradox of Manipulators and Whistleblowers' by Capt. Mohd Zahari Hj Jamian. Besides that, among the main attraction during the event was the exhibition being held. The main organiser, USM had showcased its research products which includes Intelligent Hybrid Underwater Vehicle (IHUV) System, Autonomous Surface Vessel (ASV) Platform, Small Class Inspection Remotely Operated Vehicle (SCIROV), Autonomous Underwater Vertical Profiler (AUVeP), Underwater Glider Platform, and Drosobot – Swarm of mini ASVs. The best paper of the conference award was given to Ya-Wen Huang, Yuki Sasaki, Edwardo F. Fukushima and Shigeo Hirose from Tokyo Institute of Technology with their paper entitled 'Development of Anchor Diver III: Easy-to-operate Tether-type ROV for Underwater Search and Rescue Operations'. The next USYS conference will be held in 2012.

Mohd Rizal Arshad

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