Press Release – New Era in Deep Sea Mining

Monday March 29, 2018 – Launching of Nautilus New Era signals the beginning of a new era in Deep Sea Mining.

The vessel will be used by Nautilus and its partner, Eda Kopa (Solwara) Limited, as a floating base station for operations in the territorial waters of Papua New Guinea to mine copper and gold at the Solwara 1 project site in the Bismarck Sea of Papua New Guinea.

Nautilus New Era is designed by SeaTech Solutions International (S) Pte Ltd. Based in Singapore; SeaTech Solutions is one of South East Asia’s Largest and leading ship designing companies. The company specialises in design of highly complex and customised vessels including ships, floaters and offshore structures.

“We have been working on this unique design since its concept stage and we are delighted to see the vessel launched – a great milestone in the development of deep sea mining.” said Mr. Dilip Sarangdhar, Technical Director of SeaTech Solutions. “This will be the forerunner to further diverse platforms and vessels to follow in this exciting era for the deep sea mining industry.”

The 227 m by 40 m vessel is a 31 MW diesel-electric driven, completely outfitted and equipped Production Support Vessel (PSV) with accommodation for up to 180 people. It is Tier III compliant.

The vessel will be equipped with a dynamic positioning system which will provide a stable platform for deep sea mining operations irrespective of wind and wave conditions. The PSV will also be equipped with a moonpool through which the Subsea Slurry and Lift Pump (SSLP) and riser system can be deployed. On deck, the slurry will be dewatered and the solid material will be stored temporarily in the PSV's hull, and then discharged to a transportation vessel moored alongside. Filtered seawater is then pumped back to the seafloor through the riser pipes.

Final delivery of the vessel is scheduled for March 31, 2019 with first production at the Solwara 1 project scheduled for the third quarter of 2019.
Introducing SeaTech Solutions International (S) Pte. Ltd.

SeaTech Solutions International is a leading ship design house incorporated in Singapore since 2000 with satellite offices in China, India, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and Korea.

SeaTech covers the complete suite of design, engineering and consulting disciplines in-house, having customised over 300 unique ship designs. The 400 vessels sailing around the world carry the distinctive SeaTech design philosophy of customized, functionality, reliability, energy efficiency and sustainability in its ship designs.

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