PRESS RELEASE

For immediate use: 28th June 2016

Pictures: "1.SME_AROV_Leask_C-Salvor_atEMEC" "2.SME_AROV_AtRestHatston" "3.SME_AROV_Subsea"

Photo Captions: 1. SME's Anchoring ROV (AROV) on Hatston pier before marine operations at EMEC.
2. SME's AROV being over boarded for drilling at EMEC by Leask Marine's multicat C-Salvor.
3. A subsea photo at 35m depth of an anchor being drilled into the seabed at EMEC, Orkney.

Video: https://youtu.be/YEzTXSMD1oA

Video Caption: The story of development of Sustainable Marine Energy's Raptor 100 subsea rock anchors. From beginnings in subsea screw anchors in 2014, right up to the installation of SME's 4th rock anchor at the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in May 2016.

Sustainable Marine Energy installs world's first subsea rock anchors in a tidal site, at EMEC Orkney

Sustainable Marine Energy (SME) has successfully installed four subsea rock anchors in the challenging tidal flows of the Falls of Warness which will shortly allow the deployment of their PLAT-O 1 Tidal Energy Platform at the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC).

In what is believed to be a world first SME has successfully completed installation of four subsea drilled rock anchors at its berth at the European Marine Energy Centre. The anchors will be used to moor its PLAT-O tidal energy platform which will be deployed at EMEC. The Anchoring Remotely Operated Vehicle (AROV) which was used for the installation has been developed in-house at SME over the past 3 years. Marine operations were performed from Leask Marine's multicat C-Salvor.

SME Managing Director Jason Hayman said "We would like to acknowledge all of the support we have had throughout the delivery of our anchor project. It has extended all the way from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and Innovate UK down to our development partners Rockbit UK Ltd and Leask Marine who have gone out of their way to make everything possible." He continued saying "I'd also personally like to thank all of our team who have worked long hours, and sometimes in quite adverse conditions throughout the development and testing programme of both the anchors and AROV."

The AROV first saw action in the Solent in 2014 installing helical screw piles into the clay seabed to moor PLAT-O for its initial Yarmouth trials. Since then the company has tackled two streams of technology development; development of an expanding rock anchor that requires no grout for installation, and integrating the required technology in the AROV package to enable remote installation at 30+m of water depth in an extreme tidal environment.

The 3.5m length anchors have a nominal holding capacity of 100t dependent on the type of the rock. Building off this success SME is now working to develop a range of anchors with even greater holding capacity and suitable for a range of substrates.

"This is a very exciting time for SME" **said David Stoddart-Scott, Head of Project Development. "**Not only are we making great progress with the PLAT-O platform, but we are also developing subsea anchoring solutions. We will be offering these to the marine industry as a whole. Whilst we will be

busy deploying anchors for our own projects, we have also had a number of enquiries from a range of companies who are looking to benefit from our innovative technology. We are in the early stages, but substantial cost savings over conventional gravity anchors are possible. We think this will be a tempting prospect to the marine energy and aquaculture industries. We expect to perform our first customer deployment for a wave energy developer later this year."

Notes to Editors

About SUSTAINABLE MARINE ENERGY Ltd

Sustainable Marine Energy (SME) is a anchoring, mooring and platform solutions provider for energetic marine environments. Their primary focus is delivery of commercially viable products to the tidal energy industry. SME's innovative technologies and processes deliver a step change reduction in cost and enhance through-life performance for customers. SME understands the challenges faced by the offshore renewable energy sector; ensuring that low cost installation and maintenance operations can be achieved is a fundamental design driver for all of our systems.

SME has deployed a turnkey tidal energy system, called PLAT-O. PLAT-O is a moored, buoyant platform that is positioned mid-water column. It provides a comprehensive systems integration solution, exporting grid-compatible power from multiple tidal energy convertors. The 100kW PLAT-O prototype has completed testing off the Isle of Wight. It will be grid-connected at EMEC during 2016.
www.sustainablemarine.com

About ROCKBIT UK Ltd
ROCKBIT UK Ltd is a designer and manufacturer of rotary and cable percussive drilling systems and consumables. Located in Newcastle, Tyne & Wear, they have been in the business for over 30 years and are the UK sales and service agents for Massenza drill rigs and Wildbore pumps. They are currently active in the renewable industry supporting drilling works for ground source heat pump systems all over the UK.
www.rockbit.co.uk

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