



OSIRIS Projects

Construction Case Study

Osiris Projects, one of the UK's leading inshore hydrographic/geophysical survey contractors, has put a new 8-pound ROV to work on a half-dozen projects and counting. A new tool for underwater surveying, VideoRay ROV is significantly lighter, less expensive, and more maneuverable and compact than other ROVs the company has used, according to Andrew McLeay, a director at Osiris.

McLeay says the ROV is helping Osiris broaden its activities, because it is easily deployed from a small vessel. Further, the VideoRay's size - just eight pounds and 9in W x 14in L and 8.5 in high - lets it enter pipelines and confined spaces for detailed visual inspections.

Recently, Osiris used VideoRay for surveying long sea outfalls off the north east of Scotland. VideoRay viewed pipes in situ to examine condition, debris, and function.

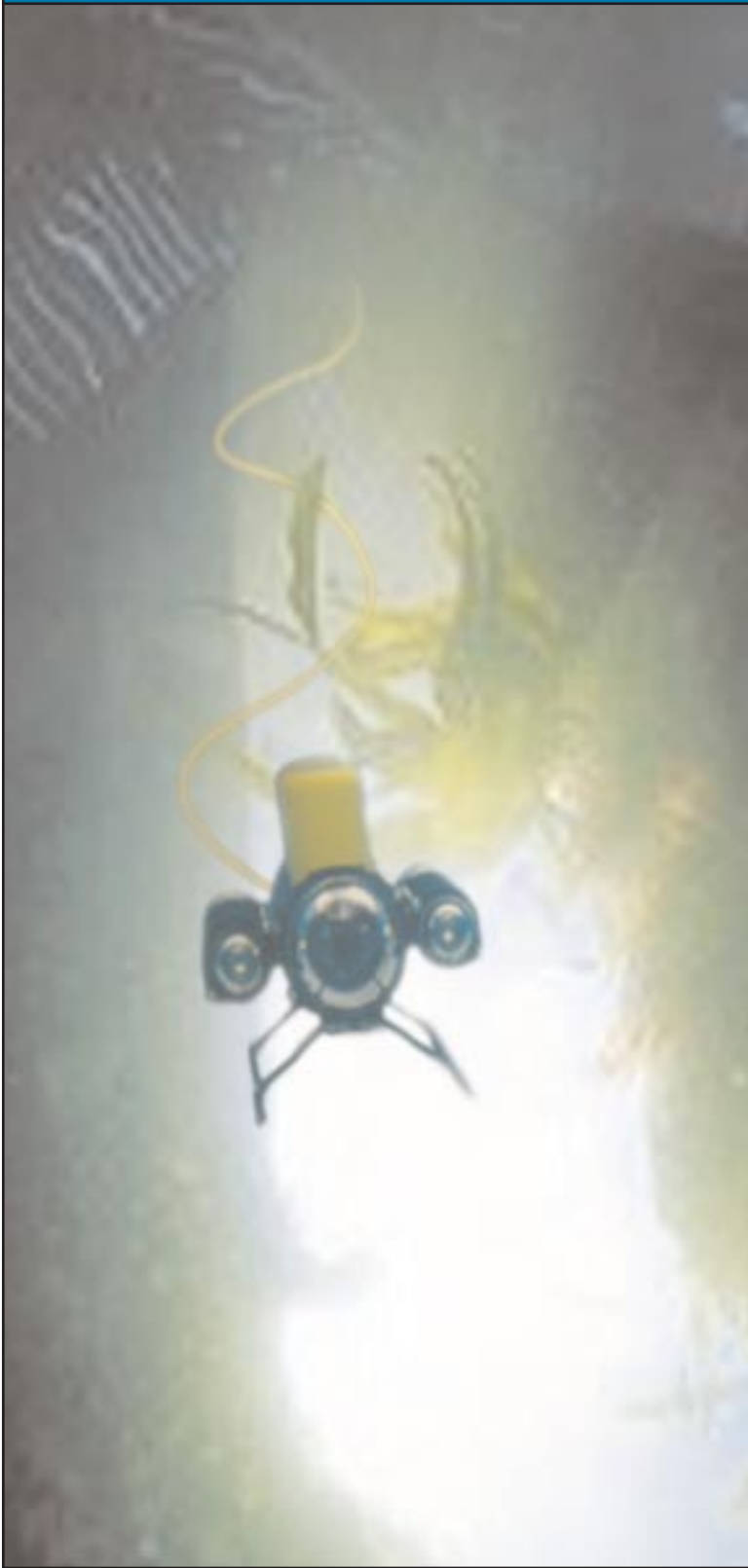
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“We were most impressed with the ability the VideoRay gave us to operate from our small (8 metre) trailable survey boat. Normally a larger boat would have been needed to accommodate a conventional ‘small’ ROV,” said McLeay. “The VideoRay unit proved to be extremely useful and we have hours of excellent footage of outfall diffuser blocks in 15 - 20m of water.” Had he used a different ROV, McLeay would have had to use a larger survey boat, which would add 800 pounds to the cost of the project.

For another project, Osiris was contracted to inspect the deteriorating concrete columns and structures of a reservoir enclosed by a roof. The only access in was through a manhole, and health and safety regulations prohibited sending a man in to visually inspect. Osiris raised the water level and dropped VideoRay in to take a look. “One of the main advantages of VideoRay is how easily it gets into inaccessible places,” says McLeay. “In this case, we got into a tight spot and minimized the risk to humans by sending the ROV in to do the job.”

McLeay has used VideoRay in waters with high chlorine levels that would endanger divers. “We just wash it off afterwards,” he says. He drops VideoRay in the water to handle projects where there is a danger to divers due to moving parts, such as the inspection of lock gates.

McLeay says he saw how the ROV would pay for itself with a single 10-day project. “If we would have had to use a larger survey vessel and another ROV, the 10 days of mobilization costs would have nearly equaled the cost of the VideoRay,” he says. “It is much easier and more convenient than other ROVs, which require a larger generator and more space on the vessel. We just pack the VideoRay in a van or station wagon, show up at the reservoir, and drop it in over the side.”



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