



UDT Europe Conference and Exhibition - 9 June 2010

Babcock International Group and Sonistics Ltd will present the following paper:-

“Submarine Escape, Rescue & Abandonment – The Integrated Approach”

The methods of escape and rescue from disabled submarines (DISSUBs) on the seabed and of abandonment from disabled submarines on the surface have evolved and improved in parallel with the experience gained from submarine design, build and operation.

Whilst rescue by submersible or diving bell will remain the preferred method of extracting survivors from a DISSUB there will always be scenarios where escape using a dedicated system is necessary. In addition, it is predicted that 25% of future submarine accidents will result in some form of abandonment of the vessel on the surface.

Although the risk of a submarine accident remains low the cost is very high. The burden of responsibility to provide suitable systems to mitigate the risk and fulfil their “duty of care” to their submariners rests with a nation’s submarine operating authority. Industry is ready and able to provide the solutions.

This paper will investigate the current systems found onboard submarines. It will identify their shortcomings and propose improved integrated escape, rescue and abandonment solutions and equipments for new build submarines and for retrofitting to in-service submarines. The proposed solutions will utilise existing, improved and new technologies and equipments.

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