



Hydro-Lek Ltd

Press Information

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For immediate release

Hydro-Lek arm offers handling capability for private submarines

Berkshire-based subsea remote handling specialists, Hydro-Lek, have provided Dutch company, U-Boat Worx, with a compact 6 function manipulator as an optional feature on the C-Quester 3, their 3-person submersible. The manipulator from Hydro-Lek, the HLK-CRA6, is a long reach lightweight heavy duty arm which uses polyethelene in its construction ensuring that its effect on trim when fitted to a lightweight craft is kept to a minimum. Weighing just 14.5 kg in water with a reach of 1.46m, the HLK-CRA6 offers high performance –cost functionality.

The C-Quester3 submersible is a safe, easy-to-handle one atmosphere submersible which means that there is no pressurized atmosphere inside. It can dive to 100m and return again without the need for decompression. One unit is currently being used as a luxury underwater tourist submarine on the Caribbean island of Aruba for marine and coral viewing and three new submersibles are in production. This latest model complete with Hydro-Lek manipulator has been sold to a wealthy superyacht owner for private use. The unique jaw assembly feature of the HLK-CRA6 enables the manipulator to be used as a seabed sample collector.

In keeping with their commitment to 100% safety, the HLK-CRA6 manipulator will be designed to eject in cases of emergency and will form part of the Germanischer Lloyd classification.

“We looked at several types of manipulators but chose the HLK-CRA6 from Hydro-Lek for several reasons: the size and functionality of the arm offered good value for money; Hydro-Lek’s systems have been tried and trusted in the industry and are therefore very reliable. Last but not least Hydro-Lek ‘s excellent customer service meant that our requirements were handled promptly and efficiently.” commented U-Boat Sales & Marketing Manager, Erik Hasselman.

About Hydro-Lek

Hydro-Lek is a leading supplier of remote handling systems for the subsea, nuclear and defence industries. Products range from simple hydraulic components to fully integrated telemetry-controlled remote manipulator systems for integration onto ROV’s and remote access platforms. The company employs a dedicated team of design engineers to provide a specialist turnkey project engineering and build service from its facilities in Berkshire England. Hydro-Lek’s durable lightweight and inexpensive manipulators are currently used on a wide range of ROVs, IAVs and manned submersibles for different applications.

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