

Hydro-Lek comes to the rescue

World leader in underwater e-robotic systems, Saab Seaeye, is pleased to announce the delivery of four pairs of Hydro-Lek manipulators to JFD as part of their third generation submarine rescue systems for delivery to the Indian Navy.



Hydro-Lek HLK-40500R 7 function manipulator (left) and HLK-40400 5 function manipulator (right)

JFD – serving the commercial and defence diving markets – has taken delivery of two pairs of these work class manipulators. The first set has been fitted to JFD's first of two deep search and rescue vehicles (DSRV) for the Indian Navy.



JFD's Deep Sea Rescue Vehicle with Hydro-Lek manipulator tool bar

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Each manipulator system comprises a 7 function arm and a 5 function arm, together with Hydro-Lek valve packs, HPU and control electronics.

JFD's third generation DSRV is one of the deepest rated submarine rescue vehicles available and has been developed with the highest standards in safety, quality, flexibility and speed to maximise the chances of successfully rescuing the crew of a distressed submarine.

Soil Machine Dynamics Ltd (SMD) took delivery of a further two pairs of HLK-40500R 7 function and HLK-40400 5 function arms which were fitted to their Atom MK1 Work Class ROV systems and were delivered to JFD for the project at the end of 2017.



SMD's Atom MK1 ROV with Hydro-Lek manipulators installed.

Image supplied by courtesy of Soil Machine Dynamics Ltd.

The ROV solutions are intended to carry out submarine rescue intervention operations and will enable JFD to provide the Indian Navy with reliable equipment to support these critical missions.

JFD and SMD chose Hydro-Lek arms for their compact and lightweight design – a critical feature for the vehicle as the entire system must be air transportable for rapid response when required.

“These complementary work class arms have been developed to meet the increasing demands of the market for a cost effective manipulator package. Their compact design, reliable performance and value has been fully proven on a range of vehicles including those for the Indian Navy,” says Saab Seaeye.

Hydro-Lek became a business line within Saab Seaeye in January 2016. Saab Seaeye is the world's leading underwater e-robotics company, with the most advanced range of tethered, autonomous and hybrid electric robotic systems, engineered to address the diverse range of tasks found across commercial, defence and scientific markets.

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