

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**OceanWorks Signs Contract with UVIC to Provide Subsea Junction Boxes
for NEPTUNE Canada Project**

North Vancouver, British Columbia – OceanWorks has been contracted by NEPTUNE Canada to design and manufacture the underwater instrument junction boxes for the NEPTUNE cabled observatory project. NEPTUNE is a joint U.S.-Canadian venture led by the University of Victoria in Canada and the University of Washington working with the National Science Foundation's OOI Project Office in the U.S, with major funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund.



The NEPTUNE Canada cable network will feature five to six Nodes to which seafloor laboratories can be configured by using OceanWorks supplied Junction Boxes. Each Junction Box can support up to 10 individual instrument interfaces using a variety of Ethernet or serial communication links. Each Junction Boxes supplies up to 1.5 kW of power to each instrument in a variety of voltages to allow for maximum configurability to suit the requirements of the attached instrument. Each Junction Box can also switch supply up to 6kW at 400V for high power loads. The Junction Box connects to the node and allows instruments to be placed in any region of interest up to 10 km away from the Node and at depths up to 3000m.

The Junction Box is the primary science interface and can be configured pre-deployment and is immediately available once connected to the Node. Data is passed from the Junction Box to the Node allowing information and images gathered by NEPTUNE instruments to travel instantly anywhere in the world from the short station Internet connection located in Port Alberni via the University of Victoria data centre. They will be able to use the data collected to respond to events such as storms, plankton blooms, fish migrations, earthquakes, tsunamis, and underwater volcanic eruptions, as they happen. OceanWorks is working with NEPTUNE Canada to bring the Pacific Ocean alive online to laboratories and, through the power of the Internet, to classrooms and living rooms around the world.

OceanWorks is an internationally recognized subsea technology company specializing in the design and manufacture of manned / unmanned subsea systems and specialized equipment for military, oil and gas, scientific, and other marine markets. Offering a full range of subsea system engineering, design and analysis, fabrication, testing, and project management services, OceanWorks has been at the cutting edge of deep submergence and diving technology, operations, and support for over 20 years.

For more information on OceanWorks International products and services please visit our website at www.oceanworks.com and for information on NEPTUNE Canada visit www.neptunecanada.ca.

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