

OCEANOLOGY INTERNATIONAL 2012, LONDON EXCEL

Personal Report by Lucía Villar-Muñoz

The Oceanology International 2012 (OI2012) is the world's premier event for marine sciences and ocean technology, featuring more than 500 exhibitors, a conference program and vessel demonstration. Moreover, this year included two new industry pavilions for both the marine renewable and marine security sectors, which were very attractive stands for the visitors.

OI2012 took place in ExCel London during 12th-15th March and the total number of visitors was more than 6.000. The visitors took the opportunity to learn about the latest news on the market, and to share and gain knowledge about the professions during the trade show and in the seminars. Side meetings were held, as well as many networking meetings.

My main personal interest to attend to OI2012 was to visit and know the-state-of-the-art related to oil and gas companies, and maybe to leave my Curriculum Vitae to plan my career with them in the near future. The reason is because during the first year of my PhD I realized that I want to work in a company, in a more proactive-applied work, by mixing offshore and onshore work. Other interests to me were to know how the marine technology and gas/oil extraction are developing (since I'm working in my PhD as part of a Chilean Project focused in to mine gas hydrate from the sub-seafloor), and also to visit the Renewable Energy and Diving sectors.

For my experience I believe that I accomplished my mission! On the first day, thanks to the advices of Dr. Warner Brückmann, I visited the most important stands which work with Oil and Gas Companies: Fugro and Gardline. Fugro collects, processes and interprets data related to the earth's surface and the soils and rocks beneath and provides advice based on the results to clients in many sectors. Gardline was established in 1969, to provide marine support to a flourishing offshore oil and gas industry in the North Sea, but today is the parent company of a diverse group of multi-disciplinary organisations involved in a range of activities that include satellite communications, marine sciences, security, ship building, dry dock engineering, geographical information systems, digital mapping and vessel charters.

I was very lucky to meet the right persons and on the second day I had my first interview in Fugro: it was very exciting and we shared our knowledge, talking mainly about my PhD topic. And during the next day after I had returned from London, I got a call from Italy! They saw my Resume and were interested in what kind of software I use for my work in GEOMAR. Now I am very hopeful to get some work in the near future.

Besides, I visited not only these two big companies, but also the small ones like GAS Survey. Now I have more than 13 visit cards from different companies to send them via email my Curriculum Vitae and to get a chance to work with one of them.

Finally I want to thank ISOS for giving me this amazing opportunity to prepare my career and I would like to promote and encourage this experience to other PhD Student of the Excellent Cluster: you will not be disappointed and will gain much knowledge!

Lucía Villar-Muñoz, PhD Candidate at GEOMAR