

**PRESENTATION**

**ON**

**AN INNOVATIVE OCEAN PLATFORM FOR  
SPECIAL OBSERVATION CAMPAIGN &  
FAST DEPLOYMENT & MAINTENANCE OF DATA BUOYS**

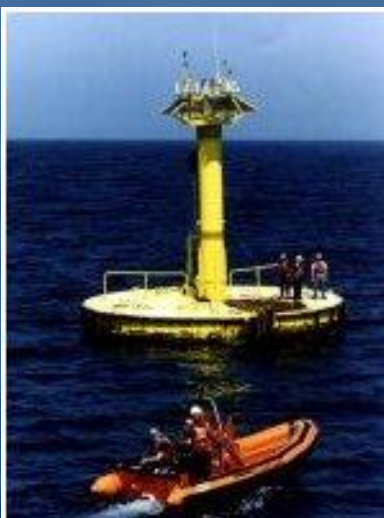
**BY**

**UGI CONTI, K.PREMKUMAR, ISABELL CONTI**

**AT**

**DBCP XXV 2009 SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL WORK SHOP  
ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2009 IN PARIS**

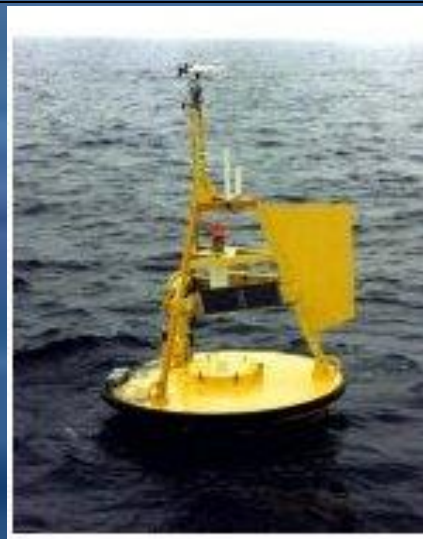
# AVAILABLE OCEAN PLATFORMS



10 m Discus buoy



6 m Nomad buoy



3 m Discus buoy



PIRATA buoy



TRITON buoy



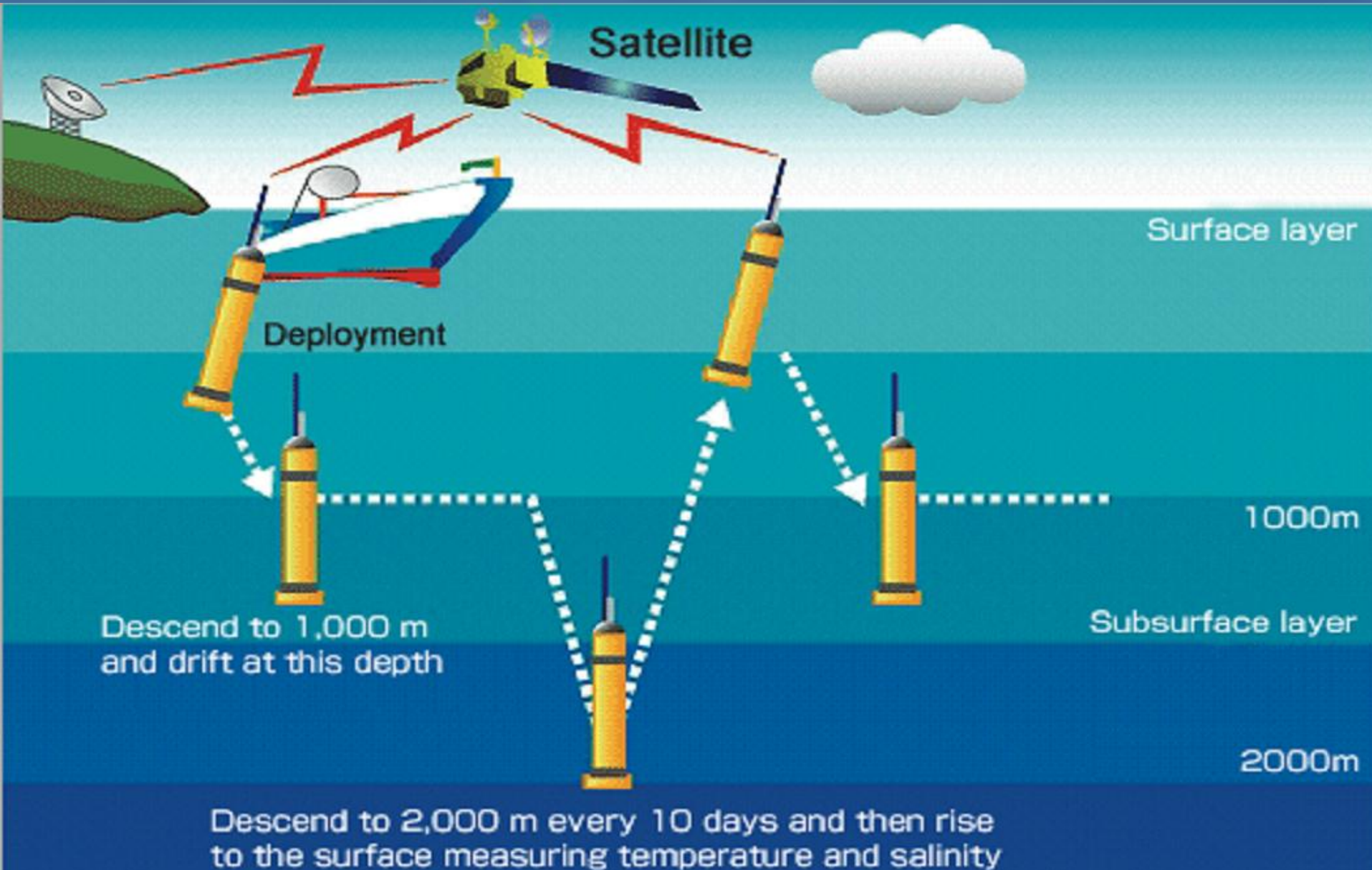
EGOS buoy



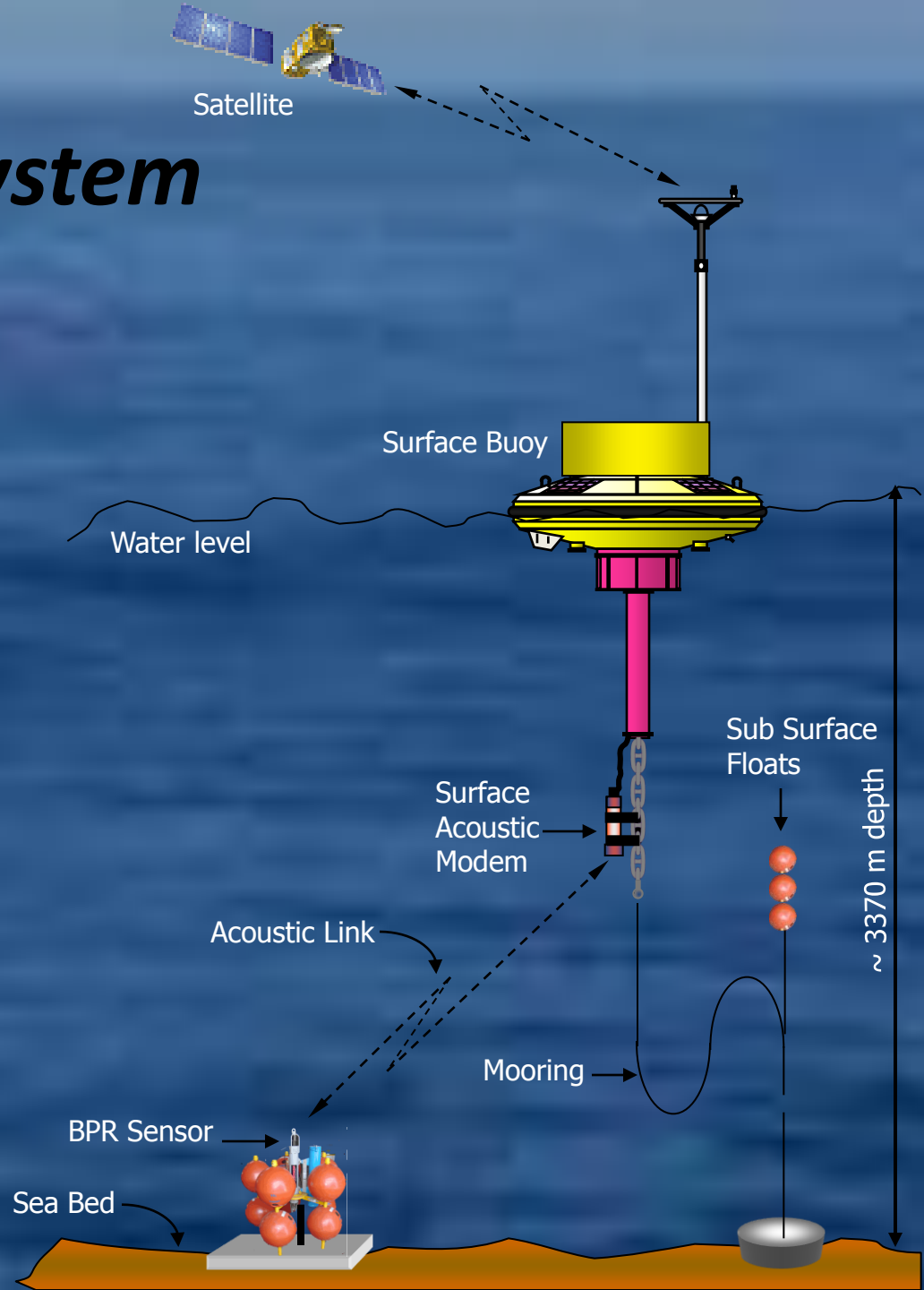
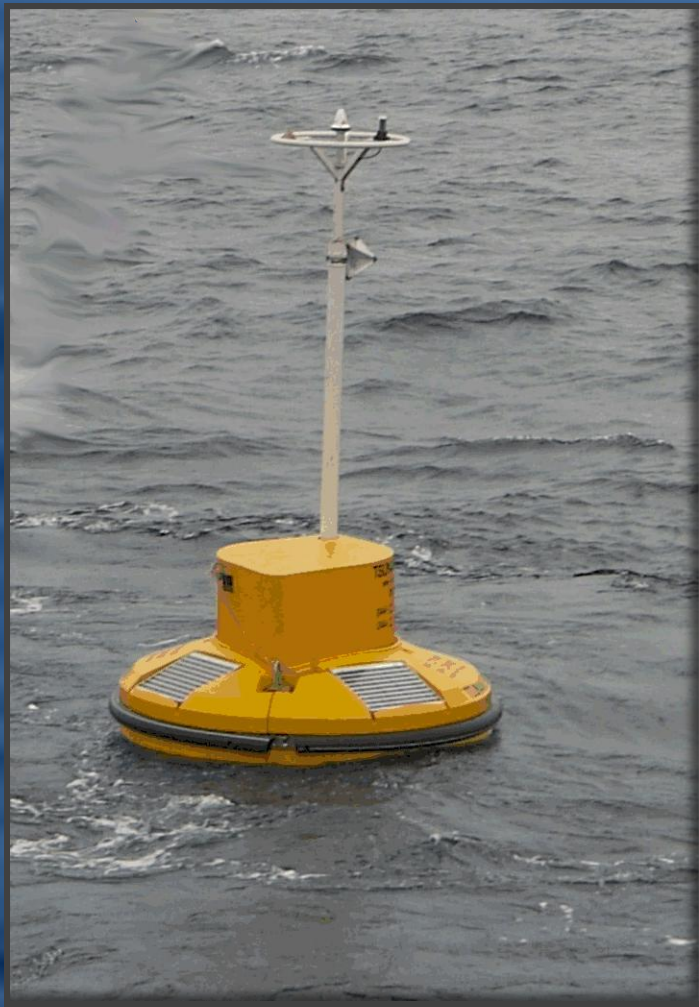
Drifting buoy



# ARGO Float



# Tsunami Buoy System



**MARINE ADVANCED RESEARCH, USA**

**INTRODUCES**

**A NEW**

**CLASS OF VESSEL WHICH CAN BE WELL**

**UTILISED AS OCEAN PLATFORM & FOR**

**BUOY MAINTANENCE**

**WAM-V<sup>®</sup>**



# WAM - V



# Based on a Totally New Concept:

Why fight the ocean?

instead

Absorb, slide, adjust!

**WAM-V<sup>®</sup> :**

**WAVE ADAPTIVE  
MODULAR VESSELS**



# Key Concepts:

- Marine Advanced Research, Inc., has created a revolutionary technology based on many innovations.
- The WAM-V technology complements existing vessels and opens new possibilities.
- WAM-Vs are to conventional vessels what helicopters are to airplanes.

## Wave Adaptive:

- A WAM-V adapts its hull shape to the surface of the water.
- Instead of forcing the water to conform to the hulls, a WAM-V gives and adjusts; “dances” with the waves.
- Offering minimal resistance, WAM-Vs are ultra light craft that float like corks on the waves.
- Lower weight = lower fuel consumption.
- Springs, hinges, shock absorbers and ball joints articulate the vessel and mitigate stresses to structure, payload and crew.

## Wave Adaptive:

Two different radio-controlled 8 ft. models demonstrate the “wave adaptive” behavior of the WAM-V technology.



## VIDEO CLIPPING:



# 50 ft Test Platform

Demonstrates maneuverability and safety  
next to rocky coastline.

# Video clipping:



Video: 50 ft Test Platform



## 100 ft R&D Prototype:

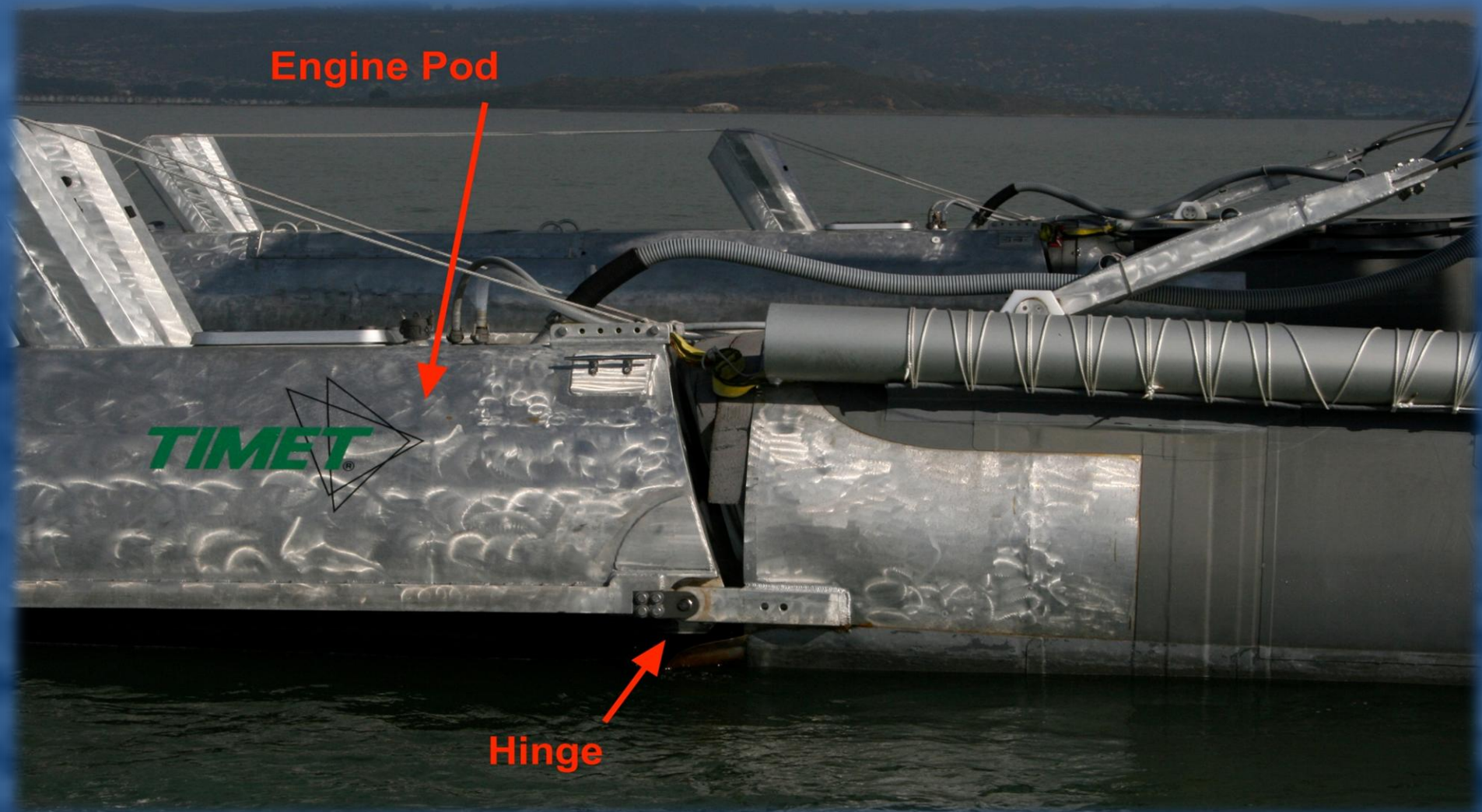
- Built in 2006 and tested for several months in Puget Sound, WA.
- Named “Proteus” to signify that it was the first of its kind.
- Introduced to the public for the first time in San Francisco, CA in January 2007.

# Wave Adaptive Elements: Inflatable Pontoons





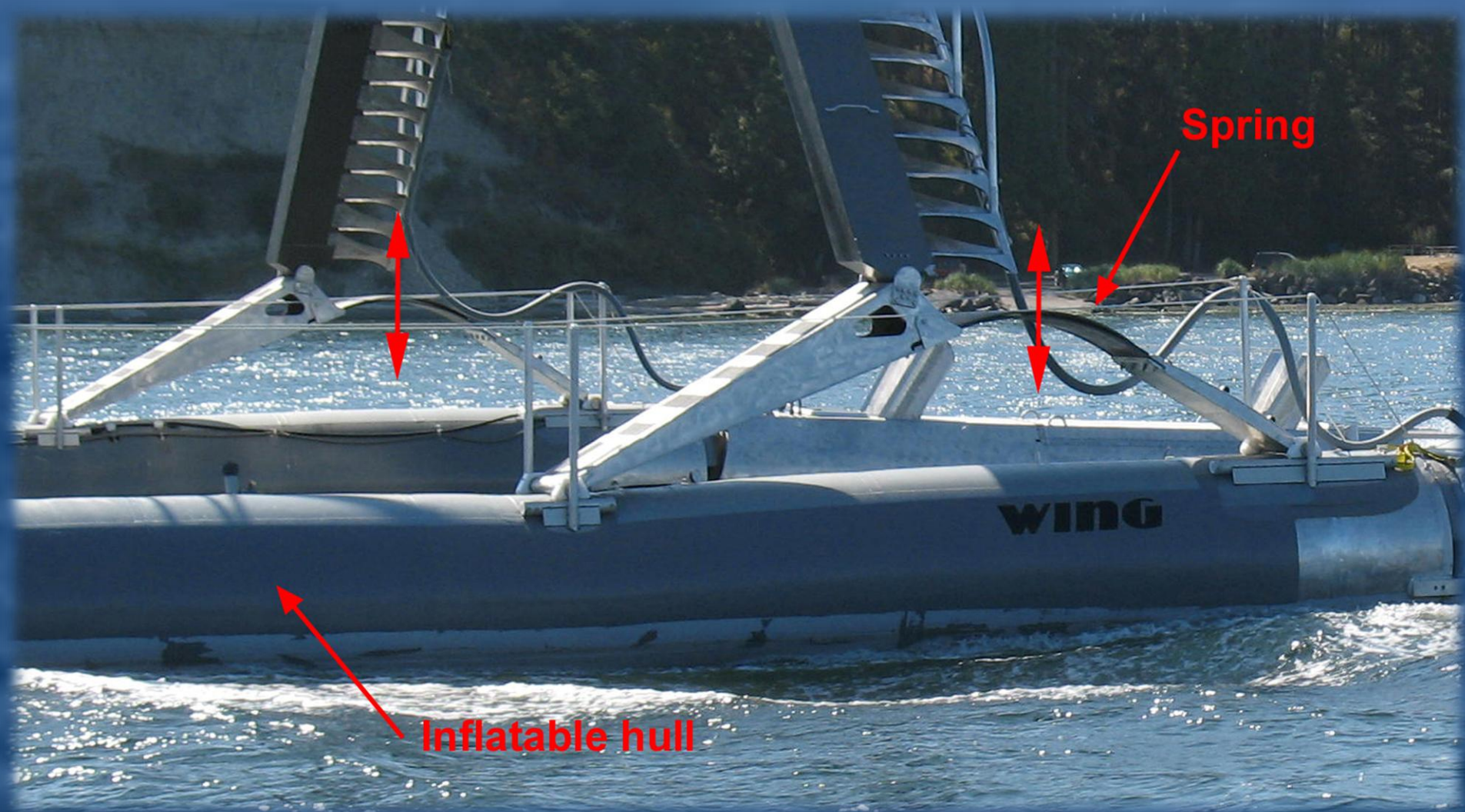
# Wave Adaptive Elements: Hinged Engine Pods



Hinged engine pods allow the pods to follow the shape of the waves and keep the propellers in the water at all times.



# Wave Adaptive Elements: Springs



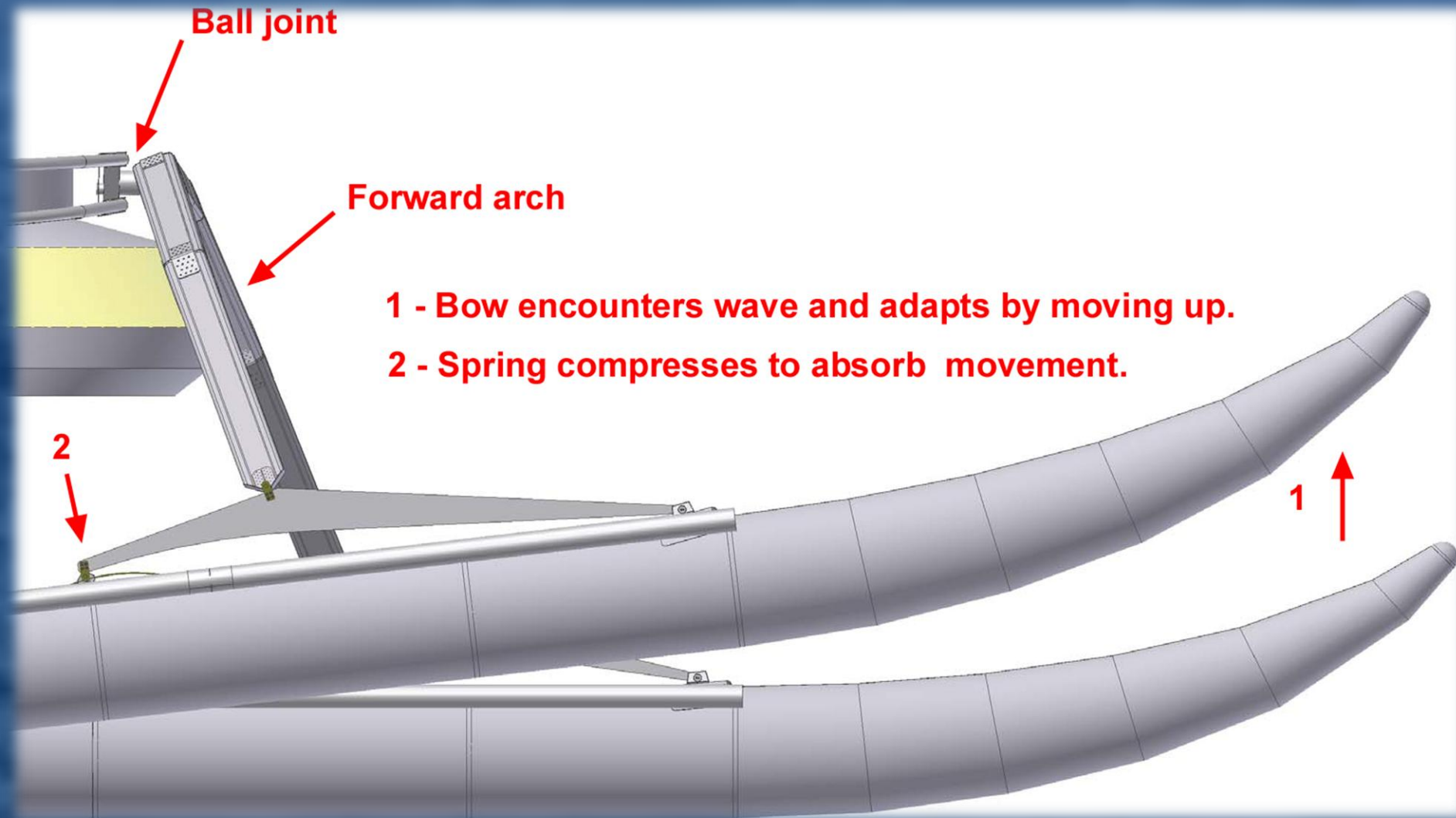
Springs help to absorb wave motion and reduce stresses

# Wave Adaptive Elements: Spring Details





# Wave Adaptive Elements: Ball joint



Ball joint allows the forward arch to rotate such that the hulls can move semi-independently. This reduces the stresses on the structure.

# Wave Adaptive: Advantages

## Seaworthiness

- The 2:1 length to width ratio ensure extreme stability.
- Round and soft inflatable pontoons prevent digging of the catamaran hulls under waves and resist capsizing.
- Gentler ride: no pitching or rolling sensations.



# Wave Adaptive: Advantages

## Maneuverability

- 360° turning within the vessel length
- Vessel is operated by differential thrust - no steering wheel needed.
- Novice can learn to operate in minimal time.

# Wave Adaptive: Advantages :

## Environmental Friendliness

- Low fuel consumption
- Minimal wake
- Low draft
- Soft hulls

# Wave Adaptive: Advantages

## Safety

- 6 air chambers per inflated hull. Only 1 chamber per hull is required for vessel to remain afloat.
- Extremely durable fabric resists puncture and tearing.
- Soft hulls allow contact with rocks and other hard objects with no damage.



## Modular:

A WAM-V can transform into different vessels for a variety of uses

- The engine pods, connected with hinges to the hulls, can be changed in half hour.
- The payload module can be switched with a different one in minutes.

# Modular: Changeable Payload





# Modular: Cabin/Payload lowers to Water





# Modular: Advantages

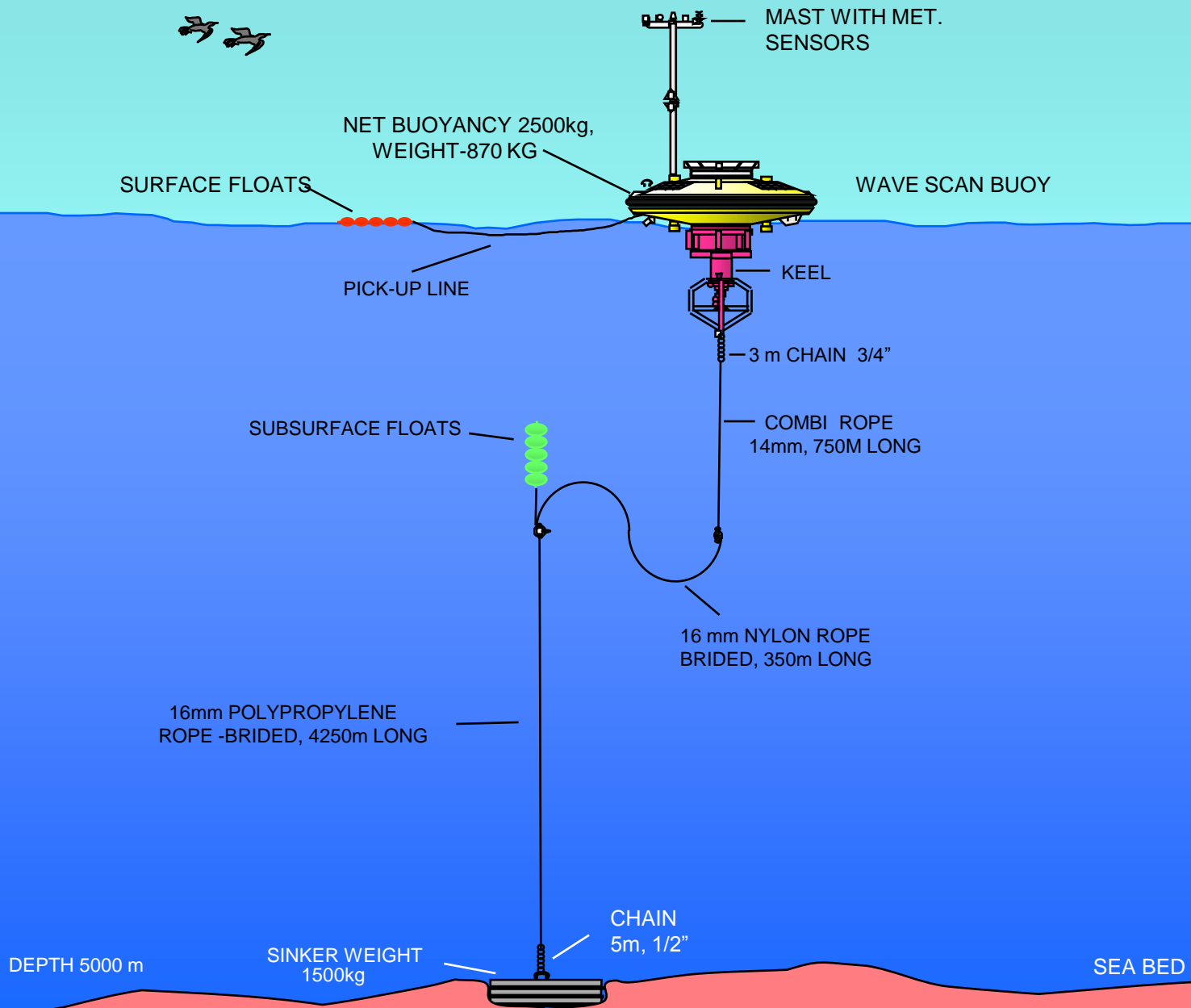
## **No down time**

- With one spare engine pod, maintenance can be performed ashore while craft continues to operate.
- Fast switch to a different propulsion system (e.g. propellers to jets and vice versa) with two sets of engine pods, or
- Switch to more (or less) powerful engines according to required performance.
- Removable engine pods decrease the vessel's length for storage or transportation.

# Modular: Advantages

## Changeable Payload

- One vessel with a complement of payloads fits different needs for different users.
- Payloads can be custom built to users' specifications.



**DISCUS BUOY MOORING CONFIGURATION (Deep water)**



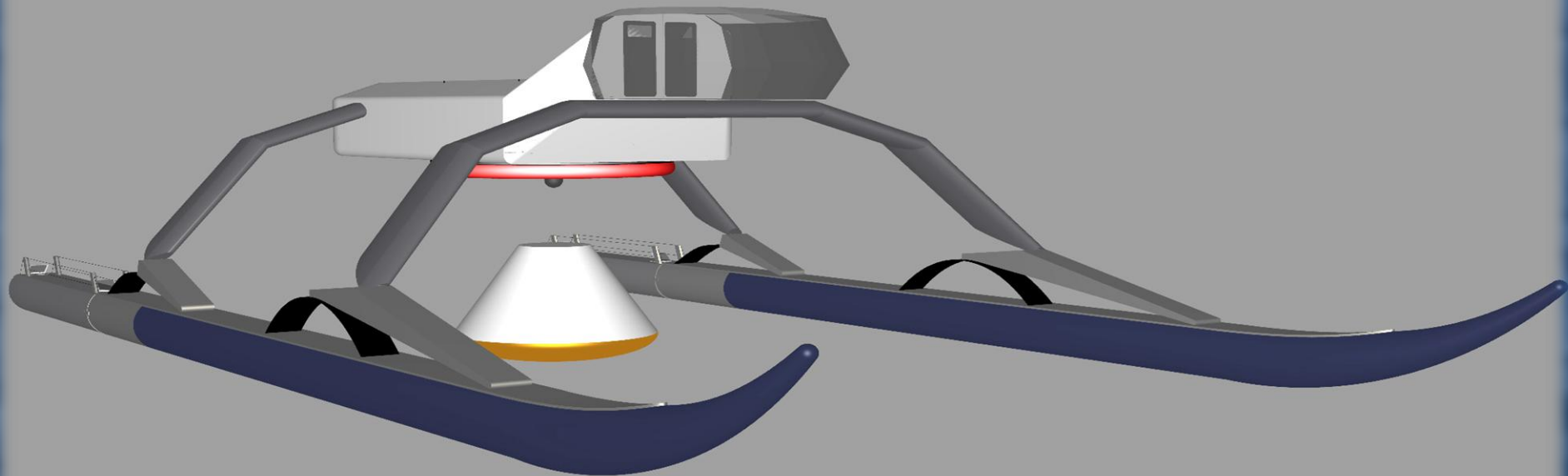
# For Special met & Ocean Observation Campaigns



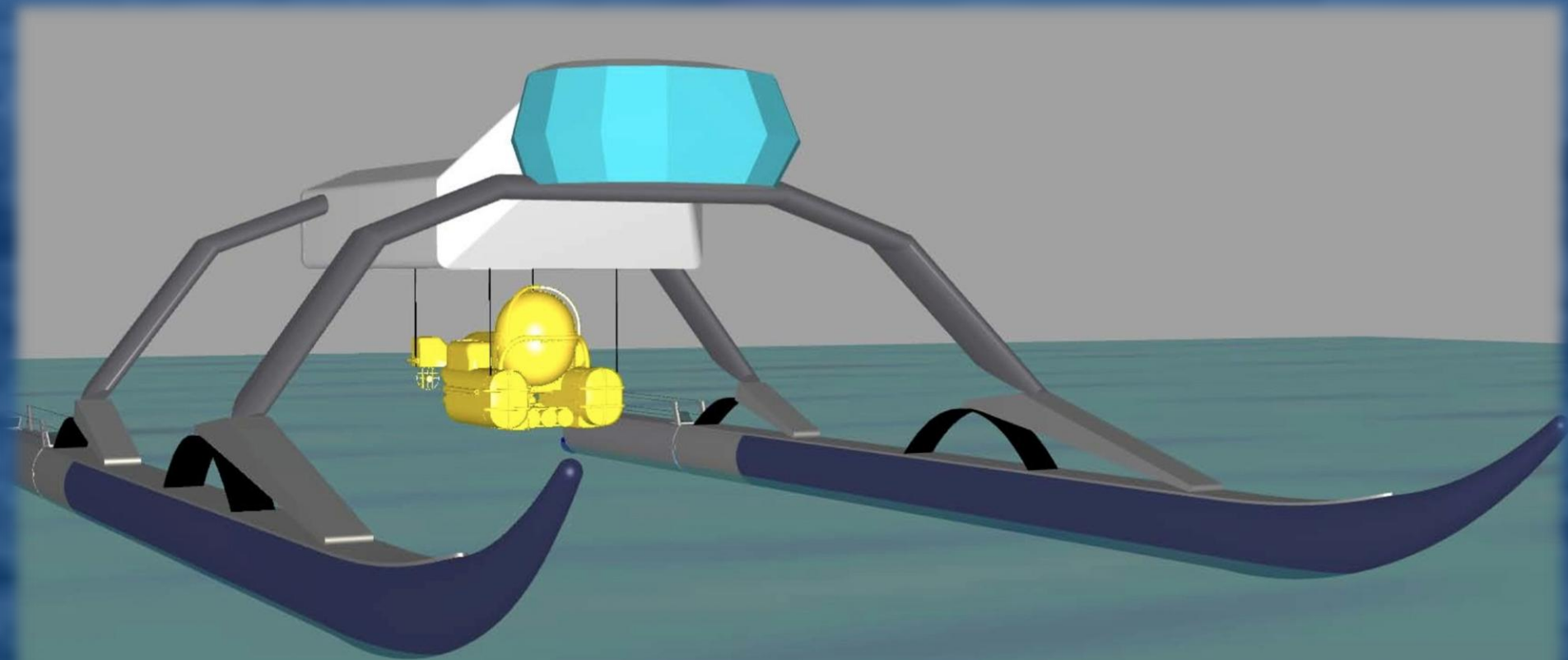
## Buoy Deployment & Maintenance:

Unlike the conventional ships, the WAM-V can go over the buoy & can carry out insitu maintenance & retrieve with ease.

One can deploy the observation platform at the desired location.

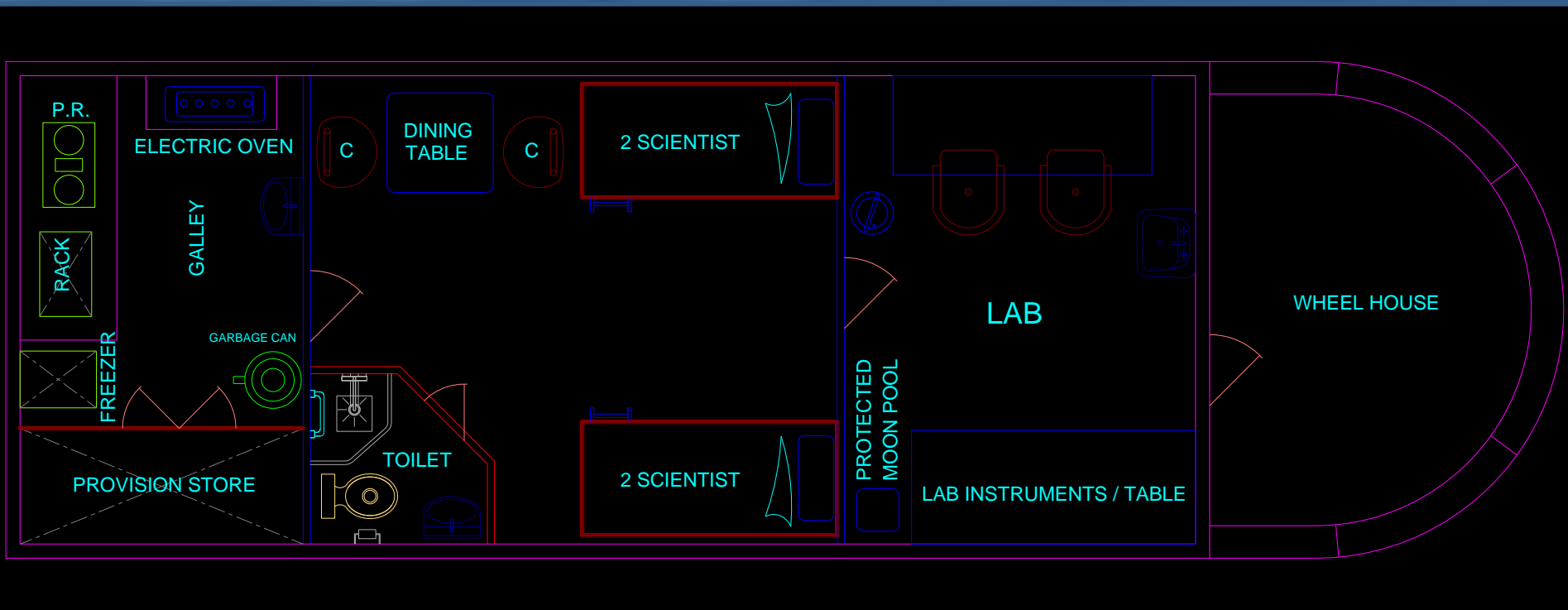


Application example:  
CTD/Special Instrumentation platform  
Deployment

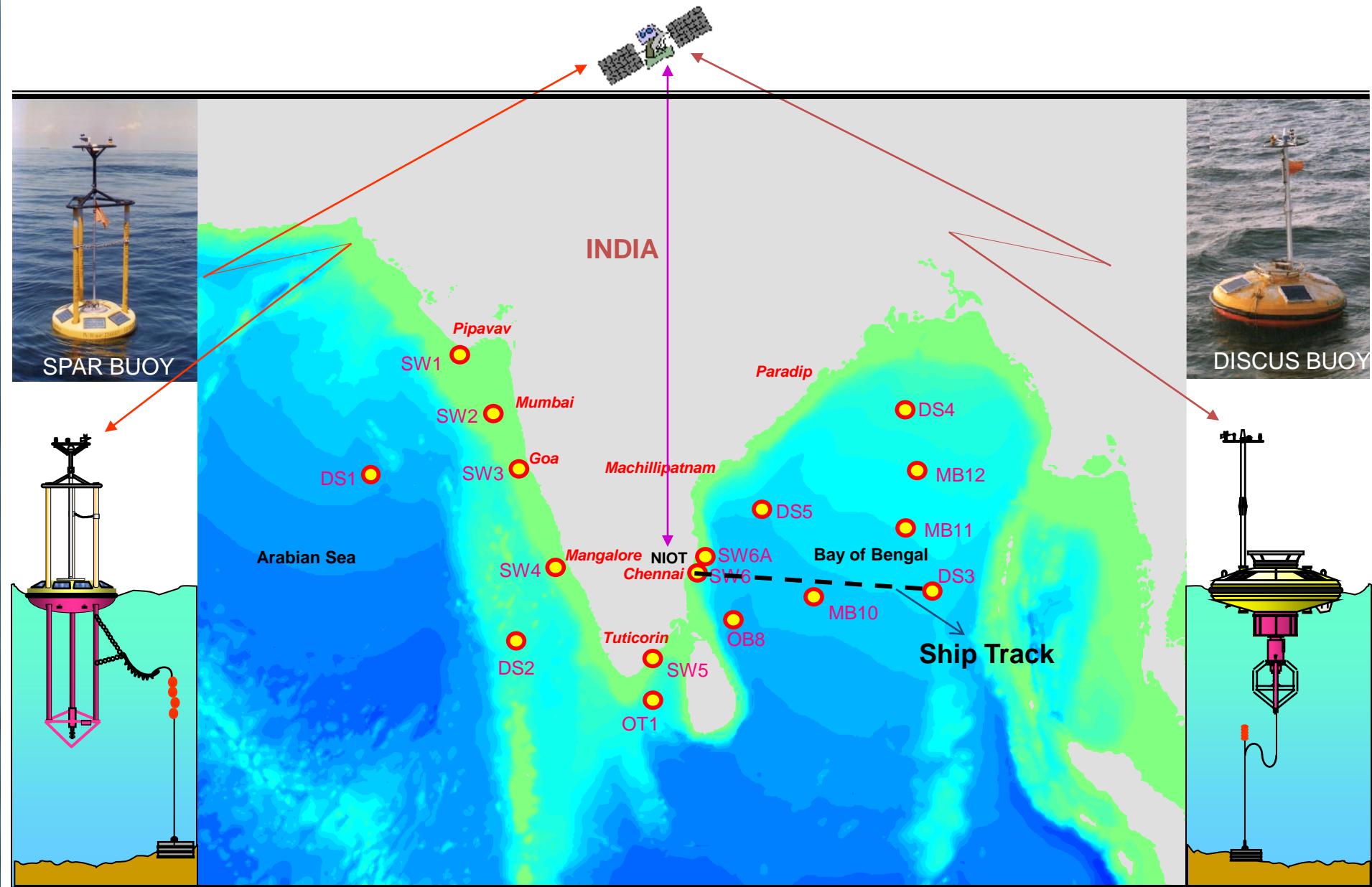




# LAYOUT FOR LABORATORY



# NATIONAL DATA BUOY PROGRAMME (Moored)



Data buoy locations in India

# Typical buoy maintenance cycle and response time

FACTORS TO ANALYSE	CONVENTIONAL SHIP	WAM-V
1. Speed	12 Knots (12-15knots)	> 25 Knots
2. Management	Large crew, Berth only in port	Very few
3.Voyage Cycle for maintenance(Say 600NM)	5+ days	2+ days

# The WAM-V technology is scalable

WAM-Vs can range from 12 ft to 150 ft depending on applications.

<u>Length in feet</u>	<u>Maximum payload weight</u>
12	23 kg
50	225 kg
100	5400 kg
150	13500 kg



# Proteus: Fuel Consumptions:

Engine RPM	Speed (knots)	Fuel Consumption for both engines (gallons per hour)	Range for RPM (nautical miles)
600	6.1	1.4	11,329
1390	14.0	7.0	5,200
1830	18.0	16.0	2,925
2220	21.7	26.2	2,153
2500	25.0	34.0	1,912
2800	30.0	42.0	1,857

# *Proteus'* Performance to Date:

More than 3000 nm

- Sea trials in Puget Sound:
  - 300 nm - up to Beaufort 6 - seas from all directions.
- Puget Sound to San Francisco Bay:
  - 1,000 nm - up to Beaufort 5 - average speed: 18 kn
- Sea trials in San Francisco Bay:
  - 300 nm - up to Beaufort 5 - seas from all directions.
- Mediterranean cruise:
  - Genova to Cannes, Cannes to Genova, Genova to La Spezia, La Spezia to Corsica, Corsica to Sardinia and surrounding Marine Sanctuaries, Sardinia to Ischia, Ischia to La Spezia and Genoa.
  - 1500 nm - up to Beaufort 6 - seas from all directions - cruising speed 15 to 23 kn

# Applications: Military

- Manned format
  - Deliver / retrieve small teams to an undeveloped beach.
  - Transport personnel and supplies to and from seabase.
  - Screen small vessels for radioactive/nuclear threats
- Unmanned format
  - Port surveillance.
  - Chain-link defense system.

# Applications: Coast Guard

- Conduct search & rescue operations with helicopter-like performance.
- Provide disaster assistance to undeveloped coastal areas.
- Patrol for extended periods from open ocean to shallow water with minimal crew.



# Applications: Other Government Agencies

- Perform routine maintenance on buoy arrays.
- Deliver marine biology labs, diving platforms and instrument packages for scientific projects.
- Conduct environmental impact studies in shallow coastal and riparian areas with fragile ecosystems.
- Deliver environmental disaster recovery tools with minimal environmental impact.

# “Proteus” at Port of San Francisco

- NOAA:
  - Perform routine maintenance on buoy arrays
  - Service National Marine Sanctuaries for whale and bird counting, delivering marine biology labs, diving platforms and instrument packages
- EPA:
  - Conduct environmental impact studies in shallow coastal and riparian areas with fragile ecosystems
  - Fast deployment of spill containment booms at reduced cost and with minimal crew

## VIDEO CLIPPINGS:



Video: Proteus in San Francisco, California



Video: Proteus in Sardinia, Italy

**HOPE AUDIENCE OF THIS DBCP S&T WORK  
SHOP WILL CARRY THE MISSION OF  
EMPLOYING THE NEW COMFORTABLE  
PLATFORM FOR OCEAN OBSERVATION.**

**THANK YOU ALL & LET ME HOPE  
TO MEET YOU ALL IN NEXT DBCP  
SESSION**