Global Underwater Hub

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ROBOTICS SOLUTIONS

Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Conference 2026

Wednesday 2 December 2026

Energy Central Campus, Blyth



Global Underwater Hub is the leading trade and industry development body for the UK's underwater sectors.

Owned and governed by industry, Global Underwater Hub represents, promotes and supports all sectors of the underwater industry. As the UK's underwater industry organisation, we support our member companies by enabling access to market opportunities, expertise, contacts and specialist support to accelerate market growth and build value.

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About the conference

Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) is an annual conference from **Global Underwater Hub**, the leading trade and industry development body for the UK's underwater sectors, which will take place on **Wednesday 2 December** at **Energy Central Campus** in **Blyth.**

An increase in marine development in the waters off the United Kingdom, across Europe and internationally is leading to the discovery of an increasing number of UXO. Safe and environmentally sensitive clearance of these legacy munitions is required to protect human and marine life and the planned infrastructure, whilst also not impeding existing marine users.

The programme will bring together specialists from across the sector to share insights, practical experience and lessons learned across the following topics:

- **Regulatory and consent**
- **Threat and risk assessment**
- **UXO Survey, identification, mitigation, clearance and relocation**
- **ALARP / Environmental**

Maritime UXO: Managing Risk, Enabling Offshore Development

Maritime unexploded ordnance (UXO) remains one of the most significant challenges facing offshore energy and marine infrastructure projects today. Across UK waters, the Baltic Sea and many other coastal regions worldwide, legacy munitions from past conflicts, military training activities and disposal operations continue to pose risks to offshore wind developments, ports, subsea cables and other critical infrastructure.

As offshore activity expands into increasingly complex marine environments, developers must identify, assess and mitigate UXO risks to ensure projects can be delivered safely, efficiently and in compliance with regulatory requirements. Reducing risk to As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP) is now a key consideration throughout the project lifecycle.

Traditionally, marine UXO disposal has relied on high-order detonation techniques. While effective, these methods can have significant environmental consequences, including impacts on protected marine mammals and fish, damage to sensitive habitats and disruption of seabed conditions.

The industry is now embracing a new generation of lower-impact disposal technologies that can significantly reduce environmental effects while maintaining the highest safety standards. These innovative approaches are increasingly recognised by UK regulators as the preferred option for many UXO clearance activities.

Supporting partners

Headline Sponsor

Helix Robotic Solutions

Helix Energy Solutions' marine contracting business unit Helix Robotics Solutions Limited is a leading supplier of subsea engineering services, operating state of the art Remote Operated Vehicles (ROVs), seabed trenching and geotechnical vehicles, and support vessels. Our deepwater ROV track record spans 17 years, including oil and gas, renewable energy, subsea mining, and specialty services projects executed successfully around the world. Canyon delivers safe, modern, innovative and professional solutions for critical-path deepwater construction and specialty marine contracting projects.

As of April 2013, Canyon operates 51 ROV and trenching systems including heavy work class systems, trenching and geotechnical systems, and five chartered ROV support vessels. Many of these assets, including trenchers and the Grand Canyon support vessels, are custom built to our specifications. Innovation in remote intervention and subsea tooling techniques differentiate Canyon from other subsea vehicle providers. By combining deployment expertise with subsea engineering acumen, Canyon Offshore's project teams develop programs that take into account every variable in an operation. This level of experience keeps projects moving forward on time and within budget.

UXO Conference 2026

Wednesday 2 December 2026

Supporting partners

Lanyard Sponsor

6 Alpha Associates

6 Alpha Associates are recognised market leaders in Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Risk Management and Explosives Ordnance Disposal (EOD).

6 Alpha have developed a number of bespoke risk management tools. We have applied them to a variety of clients' projects and have saved time and effort on unnecessary risk mitigation work. Our clients across a number of industries tell us that we have saved them money.

Lunch & Networking Sponsor

N-Sea Group

N-Sea is an end-to-end subsea services provider. With a fleet of 14 multipurpose vessels and a range of in-house systems and equipment, N-Sea delivers smart, fit-for-purpose solutions for subsea infrastructure projects in every stage of the offshore asset life cycle for customers in the international offshore energy industry.

Our bespoke solutions focus on specific subsea capabilities, such as survey, UXO ID & clearance, cable repair & installation, or IRM, construction & decommissioning. With the support of an experienced, multidiscipline offshore operations team, we integrate these bespoke capabilities into a single project, delivering a smart, fit-for-purpose, safe and sustainable solution that improves the efficiency of subsea projects and reduces projects risks for our customers.

UXO Conference 2026

Wednesday 2 December 2026

Confirmed Speakers

The 2026 UXO conference will feature a broad range of speakers from companies and organisations involved in the underwater industry, including offshore wind farm developers, regulators, UXO specialists and marine environmental conservators. Our speaker line-up includes:

UXO Conference 2026

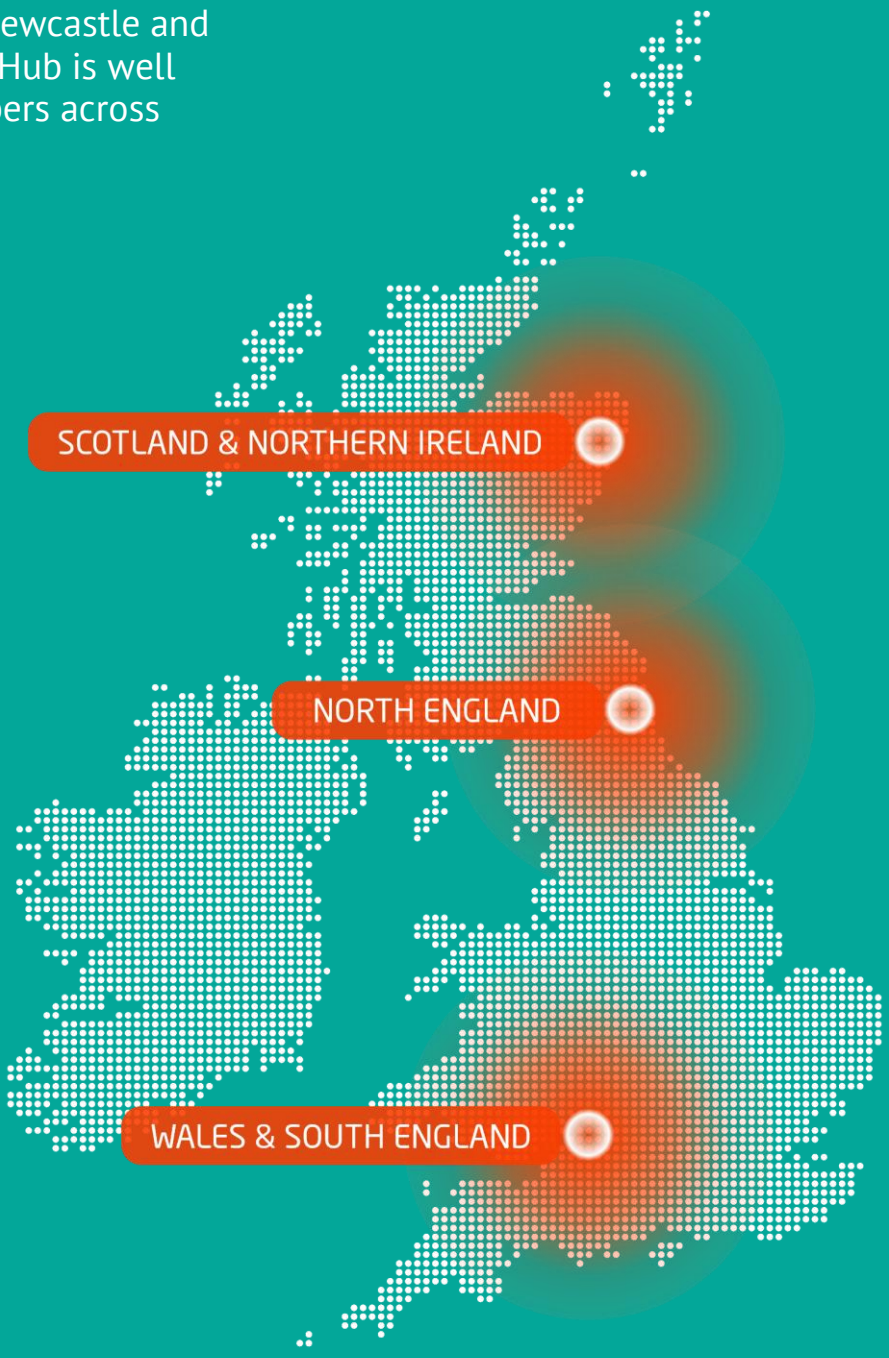
Wednesday 2 December 2026

Conference Programme

08:30 – 09:00	**Registration, Coffee & Networking**
09:00 – 09:10	**Opening Comments** Global Underwater Hub
09:10 – 09:25	**Keynote Address** Helix Robotic Solutions
09:25 – 10:30	**Session 1: Regulatory & Consent** Beazley Forth Ports JNCC
10:30 – 10:40	**Sponsor Spotlight** Helix Robotic Solutions
10:40 – 11:10	**Coffee & Networking**
11:10 – 12:35	**Session 2: ALARP / Environmental** 6Alpha Associates Loughborough University Partac Seiche
12:35 – 13:35	**Lunch & Networking**
13:35 – 14:40	**Session 3: Threat & Risk Assessment** Ordtek Bombs Away Dolomite
14:40 – 15:10	**Coffee & Networking**
15:10 – 16:15	**Session 4: UXO Survey, Identification, Mitigation, Clearance & Relocation** Helix Robotics Solutions TKMS Cosma
16:15 – 16:30	**Closing Comments** Global Underwater Hub
16:30	**Event Close**

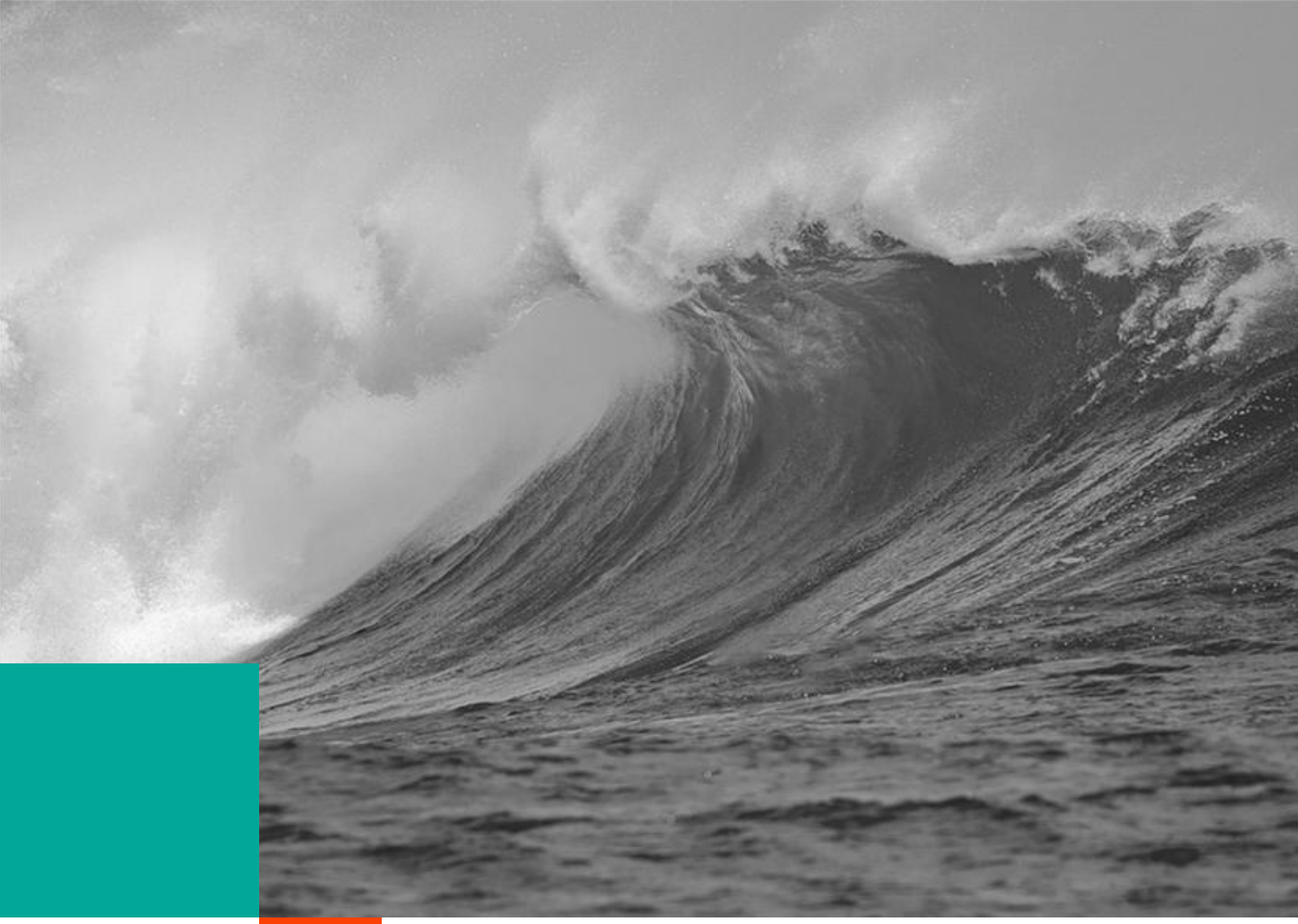
Led and governed by industry, Global Underwater Hub is helping to transform the UK's underwater industry into one of the largest and fastest-growing industries in the country, accelerating the drive to net-zero and creating high value jobs and exports.

With offices in Aberdeen, Newcastle and Bristol, Global Underwater Hub is well placed to support its members across the United Kingdom.



Access. Connect. Grow.

Global Underwater Hub



Global Underwater Hub

1 Abercrombie Court
Arnhall Business Park
Prospect Road
Westhill
Aberdeen
AB32 6FE

01224 506600
info@theguh.co.uk

www.globalunderwaterhub.com