

# Global Underwater Hub

HEADLINE SPONSOR

AquaTerra

## Splash Zone Conference 2026

Thursday, 23 April 2026

The Chester Hotel, Aberdeen



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.

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026

---



## About the Conference

The splash zone, or air/sea interface as it is more technically termed, poses many challenges for offshore infrastructure.

For asset owners, critical items of equipment such as vessel hulls, jacket members, drilling conductors, production risers and caissons have varying integrity risk profiles and are managed by different functions which may mean some aspects are overlooked. Assets are often unique, increasing complexity for owners to maintain integrity through inspection and maintenance campaigns or in the worst case to rectify damage.

Sponsored by [AquaTerra](#), the **Splash Zone Conference** will bring together key industry stakeholders in a format designed to share experiences on the challenges encountered, new methods / technologies being deployed and identify future needs.

**Conference sessions will cover:**

**Session 1: Owner / Operator Challenges**

**Session 2: Inspection & Maintenance**

**Session 3: Interventions & Repair**

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



HEADLINE SPONSOR

**AquaTerra**

## Sponsors

### AquaTerra

#### AquaTerra

Started in 2004 by a team of experts with a wealth of industry experience, AquaTerra has established itself as a benchmark work at height, construction and maintenance specialist for an ever-increasing client portfolio.

We began life as a specialist access business, combining rope access with trade skills to deliver working at height inspection, repair and maintenance scopes on various assets and in a broad range of environments.

Our consistent delivery, excellence in safety and reputation for efficiency, cemented relations with clients, many of whom still work with us today.

AquaTerra is now a multi-discipline, work at height construction partner that can deliver a vast range of elements of your project safely, reliably and resourcefully.

Occupying a modern, purpose-built facility, with on-site product development, testing and training, AquaTerra's team of specialists successfully deliver technical solutions in the UK and internationally.

We are your reliable partner, with a resourceful team who will tackle your requirements safely, whilst adding value by offering real flexibility in our approach and execution. We have the people ready to perform, however difficult the challenge.

Drawn from a wide range of industry backgrounds, AquaTerra's project teams have the understanding and technical skills to find a solution that works.

The standards we set for ourselves allow us to generate efficiencies in both labour-hours and costs, without compromise to safety or quality.

Our extensive technical knowledge, built on globally delivered projects, positions AquaTerra to often suggest and propose more creative, innovative and efficient solutions to enhance those originally envisaged or specified.

[www.aquaterra.co.uk](http://www.aquaterra.co.uk)

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



---

## Conference Programme\*

08:30 – 09:00	Registration, coffee and networking
09:00 – 09:20	Welcome speeches
09:20 – 10:40	<b>Session 1 - Owner / Operator Challenges</b> Speakers include: <b>Ithaca Energy</b>
10:40 – 11:10	Coffee & networking
11:10 – 12:40	<b>Session 2 - Inspection &amp; Maintenance</b> Speakers include: <b>AISUS, Aquatec Group, Mako Offshore, ROVMONIX</b>
12:40 – 13:40	Lunch & networking
13:40 – 15:00	<b>Session 3 - Interventions &amp; Repair</b> Speakers include: <b>AquaTerra, OceanTech Innovation AS, THREE60 Energy, Innovair and Oil States</b>
15:00 – 15:10	Closing comments
15:10 – 15:30	Networking & close

*\*Please note this is a draft programme and subject to change.*

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



HEADLINE SPONSOR

AquaTerra

## Confirmed speakers

Delegates attending the **Splash Zone Conference** on **Thursday, 23 April** will hear from representatives of the following organisations.



CLICK TO

BOOK NOW



# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



HEADLINE SPONSOR

AquaTerra

## Speaker biographies



### Andy Smerdon

Chairman

Aquatec Group

Andy Smerdon is a multi-disciplinary Chartered Engineer and entrepreneur with four decades of hands-on experience in the design, development, and application of subsea instrumentation.

**AQUAT**  **C**

He founded Aquatec in 1990 to advance underwater measurement and communication technologies and today serves as Chair of Aquatec Group and its specialist subsidiary, Tecprime Technology Limited.

A passionate innovator with multiple granted or pending patents, he is currently pursuing a part-time PhD in Engineering at the University of Aberdeen.

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



HEADLINE SPONSOR

AquaTerra

## Speaker biographies



### Bernt Schjetne

Managing Director

OceanTech Innovation AS

Bernt Schjetne is leading OceanTech Innovation, which has been working with robotic operations in the splash-zone over the last 20 years.



Bernt is one of the founders and have almost 40 years of offshore oil & gas experience in several companies.

During the last decades, ha has been one important instigator for using new technology to solve the offshore challenges with work and inspections in the challenging splash-zone. Game-changing technology has been developed to reduce HSE risk and emissions.

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



## Speaker biographies



### Brea Stephenson

Business Development Manager  
AISUS

Brea Stephenson is a Business Development Manager at AISUS, an Aberdeen-based company specialising in remote inspection technology. With experience across the oil and gas sector, he plays a key role in expanding AISUS' presence throughout the wider energy industry.



Working closely with operators and engineering teams, Brea supports the delivery of advanced non-destructive testing (NDT) solutions, particularly within challenging areas such as the splash zone.

AISUS continues to advance the use of AI in defect detection and predictive modelling, providing high-quality data intelligence that enables operators to make faster and informed decisions.

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



HEADLINE SPONSOR

AquaTerra

## Speaker biographies



### Dean Dickson

Lead Marine Integrity Engineer  
Ithaca Energy

Dean Dickson is a structural and marine integrity engineer with 15 years' experience in the oil and gas industry.

**ITHACA**  
ENERGY

His background spans structural engineering, vessel superintendency, and marine and hull integrity management across offshore assets. He has extensive experience overseeing hull and turret integrity on late life assets.

His work focuses on corrosion management, structural reliability, and risk based integrity strategies to enable safe life extension and continued operations.

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



HEADLINE SPONSOR

AquaTerra

## Speaker biographies



### Mike Killeen

Managing Director

Mako Offshore Ltd.

Michael (“Mike”) Killeen is a British offshore engineering entrepreneur and director of Mako Offshore Ltd, a Scotland-based company providing inspection, ROV tooling, and integrity solutions to the energy sector.



He co-founded the business in 2019 and serves as a principal shareholder and Managing Director, helping guide its technical and business development.

He is the inventor of multiple patented offshore and subsea engineering technologies, reflecting a focus on practical, cost-effective inspection solutions.

# Splash Zone Conference

Thursday, 23 April 2026



HEADLINE SPONSOR

AquaTerra

## Speaker biographies



### Stuart Brown

Technical advisor

Rovmonix

Bsc Engineering Aberdeen Uni, Design Engineer for Baker oil tools, Well engineer in many forms onshore and offshore including DSV and Technology promoter within Shell.

**ROVMONIX** 

Currently working with Rovmonix developing and promoting this marine growth removal tool in its many forms.

# Future events from Global Underwater Hub

---

Global Underwater Hub organises a series of events throughout the year, bringing together businesses to discuss key industry topics. Full event information, including booking details and calls for abstracts can be found on our website at [www.globalunderwaterhub.com](http://www.globalunderwaterhub.com), where you can also sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletter.

---

## Subsea Cable Insurance Conference & Workshop 2026

Wednesday, 20 May 2026 | **Hilton Canary Wharf, London**

Returning for its fourth edition, the conference will once again convene representatives from across the subsea cabling, offshore energy and insurance sectors. Topics expected to be discussed include: failure modes – physical and electrical; interventions; monitoring; and insurance.



---

## Underwater Robotics Conference 2026

Tuesday, 30 June 2026 | **Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh**

This established annual conference is focused on the development and application of underwater robotic technology. The one-day event is set to explore topics including data acquisition, AI and interpretation; regulation and insurance; seabed crawlers and intervention; and the new wave of developments and the challenges and opportunities they bring.



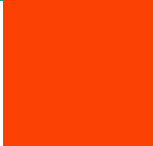
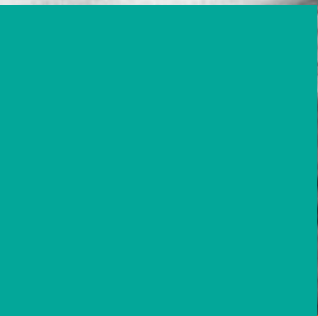
Led and governed by industry, Global Underwater Hub is helping to transform the UK's underwater industry into one of the largest and fastest-growing industries in the country, accelerating the drive to net-zero and creating high value jobs and exports.

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



Access. Connect. Grow.





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

01224 506600  
info@theguh.co.uk



[www.globalunderwaterhub.com](http://www.globalunderwaterhub.com)

