

Blueye Robotics Launches the Deepest Underwater Explorer Drone in Australia

Great Barrier Reef Legacy Organization Uses Technology to Assess Declining Coral

Cairns, Australia – November 7, 2017 – [Blueye Robotics](#), developer of Blueye Pioneer underwater drone that dives eight times deeper than the average scuba enthusiast, will launch in Australia this month. The prosumer underwater drone is suitable for ocean explorers of every type who want to discover what lies beneath the ocean, yet has the professional robustness to meet with scientific and enterprise use. First to use the drone is Dr. Dean Miller, director for science and media with the [Great Barrier Reef Legacy](#), who embarks on a 21-day expedition to explore the Reef's most remote, unexplored reaches and assess the region's declining coral reef corridor.

Blueye's arctic-tested Pioneer underwater drone is able to dive up to 150 meters deep even in the harshest ocean conditions, and has capabilities that were previously found only in expensive professional equipment used by filmmakers, oceanographers and the military. This sophisticated drone technology will give experts with the Great Barrier Reef Legacy access to oceans depths that were previously inaccessible by human divers. Thanks to the Blueye Pioneer's HD wide-angle video camera that works in low-light conditions, the explorers will see true-color images, overcoming the problem of how colors change below 16 feet underwater.

"This collaboration with the Great Barrier Reef Legacy offers a whole new tool for the expedition crew to unobtrusively navigate the coral reef," says Christine Spiten, Blueye co-founder and Chief global strategist, who will spend several days in Cairns, Australia with the research team before it begins its three-week expedition. "The Blueye Pioneer

is also valuable to anybody who is curious about the ocean and wants to see what lies beneath the hidden depths below us. These drones can help us uncover new information about the seas.”

The Great Barrier Reef legacy expedition, led by Miller and John Rumney and joined by Charlie Veron, the world’s leading expert on coral reefs, as well as other leading marine scientists from a range of universities and government organisations in Australia, will help better understand the nature of the problems facing this fragile coral reef and the recent coral bleaching that scientists attribute to warming ocean temperatures.

“The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is an area that is remote, large and hard to access,” says Miller. “Researchers have been unable to fully assess what is happening to the most pristine part of the northern Great Barrier Reef, so we are looking forward to using the Blueye’s Pioneer drone to help us better understand the changing nature of this fragile ecosystem, especially on the deeper slopes where divers simply cannot access. This gives us a whole new way of understanding how the whole ecosystem has responded to heat stress and will provide the first detailed look at deeper coral habitats.”

Developed in the harsh conditions of the Arctic Ocean, the Pioneer is extremely easy to use and produces high-quality, highly stable video using powerful LED lights and a HD wide-angle video camera. A digital dive mask with full smartphone resolution provides a realistic underwater virtual reality experience.

Fifty underwater Pioneer drones were recently purchased by the Norwegian Society for Search and Rescue, and others are being employed by the New York Harbor School to cleanup the Hudson River, a European cruise line, and Mission Blue in Monterey, California, a nonprofit that promotes global awareness of marine-protected areas. The Pioneer is also attracting attention from offshore wind parks and the aquaculture industry.

The Pioneer is available for pre-orders on www.blueyerobotics.com and will be shipped in Q2, 2018.

Resources:

Datasheet: <https://www.blueyerobotics.com/#>

Photos and Logos: <https://www.blueyerobotics.com/press>

About Blueye Robotics

Blueye Robotics combines innovative ocean technology with user experience knowledge to create professional-grade underwater drones for consumers. The company's first product is Blueye Pioneer, which can operate far deeper than other drones and is the only one of its kind offering professional-grade technology with consumers in mind. It has a special light-sensitive camera that adds back in true color imaging, and the drone delivers exceptional stability even in adverse ocean conditions. Operated via a smartphone, tablet or PC, the drone is extremely user friendly. Blueye Robotics is based in Trondheim, Norway, and Palo Alto, Calif. Visit www.BlueyeRobotics.com for more details.

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