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SEA-FIRE PROTECTS OFFSHORE COMMUNICATIONS HUB

SeaRoc Group has launched an innovative, industry-first monitoring and voice and data communication solution that links land-based operations to distant offshore petroleum platforms and wind farms via satellite, fiber or other data services. An engineered fire detection and suppression system from Sea-Fire Europe was chosen to protect the sensitive and valuable electronics inside these unmanned SeaHubs.

The SeaHub system is mobile, so it can be installed aboard a vessel, platform or even on a remote land-based location. It allows drill rigs and wind farms to be installed farther offshore than was possible in the past.

Inside are VHF A and M radios, TETRA, AIS, ADS-B, MOB and other high tech communication equipment. Everything is housed in a temperature-controlled, standard 2.4m or 3m DNV-certified shipping container. All systems, including fire detection and suppression, are monitored and remotely managed by SeaRoc's proprietary SeaPlanner™ modular software suite to ensure component protection, service continuity and worker safety when present.

Sea-Fire Europe engineered a solution that meets IMO and SOLAS requirements. The system includes smoke and heat detectors, an extinguishing release panel and cylinders containing state-of-the-art 3M™ Novec™ 1230 fire suppression fluid.

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Novec 1230 is electrically non-conductive and non-corrosive, so electronics aren't damaged during discharge. It's environmentally safe with a global warming potential equal to CO₂ so it won't deplete the ozone and has low toxicity for worker safety.

"If personnel are working inside a SeaHub at the time of a fire event, we know that Novec 1230 is not harmful or fatal to human life," said Sarah Simmons, SeaRoc Group marketing manager. "This and safeguarding the equipment were key deciding factors in ensuring the highest fire protection solution, as well as the important environmental consideration."

West Sussex, UK-based SeaRoc Group is a global leader in offshore renewable energy management and monitoring. Its first SeaHub, deployed in 2016, supports a wind farm in the UK. Its website is www.searoc.com.

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