

Autonomous Eye, a Radio-Controlled Autonomous Underwater Vehicle

A small (under one metre) radio-controlled autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) has been developed, equipped with radio links and a video camera. This small vehicle operates under the same principles as larger vehicles. The radio links and video camera provide the functionality of an underwater autonomous eye.

Applications

This vehicle can operate unmanned in a small area in a lake or ocean, sensing environmental parameters such as temperature conductivity and depth. It can also carry a variety of small data collection instruments.

Competitive Advantages

This vehicle is very small, so that it can manoeuvre easily in small pools. The radio links and video cameras provide the “autonomous eye” functionality. This vehicle is portable and easily landed. It is excellent for limnological studies.

Development Stage

A preliminary AUV prototype (PURL) has been built and undergone wet trials. The initial technology for the radio-controlled AUV has been developed. A local company has developed a drawing for the proposed device.

Business Opportunity

A technology license is sought with organizations in charge of monitoring and cleaning the environment.

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