

## ORPC Partners with Scientific Solutions to Develop Underwater Monitoring System for Ocean Energy Industry



Herb Scribner, Director of Environmental Affairs, ORPC;  
Dr. Peter Stein, President of SSI; Chris Sauer, President & CEO of ORPC; and  
Dr. Brandon Southall, Technical Adviser to ORPC and President of SEA, Inc. (l. to r.)

On July 28, 2010, officials of ORPC and Scientific Solutions, Inc. signed a Memorandum of Understanding kicking off the companies' joint efforts to develop an active acoustic monitoring (AAM) system for the ocean energy industry.

“Real-time environmental monitoring of ocean energy projects will be possible in the very near future, thanks to SSI’s incredible underwater detection technology that we are adapting for the ocean energy industry,” said Chris Sauer, President & CEO of ORPC.

The proprietary AAM system will be used to track the movement of fish, marine mammals and debris in the vicinity of ORPC’s tidal energy projects in real-time, allowing ORPC valuable visual access to the marine environment that will help inform a wide range of technical decisions.

Within six weeks, a prototype AAM system will be integrated into ORPC’s beta tidal energy system, currently operating in Maine. “SSI is thrilled to be working with ORPC to broaden the application of our proprietary swimmer/diver detection technology to serve the hydrokinetic and offshore renewable energy industry,” said SSI President, Dr. Peter Stein.

ORPC’s tidal energy project is located in Cobscook Bay off of Eastport, Maine at the mouth of the Bay of Fundy. A complete tidal energy “power plant,” the project incorporates ORPC’s proprietary Turbine Generator Unit, power electronics, state-of-the-art environmental monitoring equipment, and a battery system delivering tidal energy to the U.S. Coast Guard in a first-of-a-kind ocean energy project commissioned by the federal government. It is the largest ocean energy power system ever deployed in U.S. waters. The system is being deployed from ORPC’s world-class research vessel, the *Energy Tide 2*, and will be in operation until late this year.