



Media Release:

Wave Energy – Australia at the forefront of emerging ocean technology

7 April 2008

Creating electricity by harnessing the power of ocean waves seems logical for an island continent that is girt by sea...it is also one of many emerging energy options for everyday Australians to seriously consider.

Marine Coastal Community Network's (MCCN) most recent edition of WAVES magazine reviews contributions from scientists working on blue-green energy and ocean technology in this country, to help inform and connect everyday Australians with some of the emerging science in this area.

At the forefront of these emerging technologies are Australian companies who are demonstrating quite strongly, Australia's leading position in wave energy technology in the broader renewable energy development and commercialisation arena.

Two examples of this emerging wave technology are Sydney-based Oceanlinx and Perth based Carnegie Corporation Ltd (the following abridged from articles published in MCCN's WAVES magazine 14 (1) 2008).

For more on this topic view MCCN's WAVES magazine "blue-green energy and ocean technology" edition online:

[http://www.mccn.org.au/files/attachments/1206498118_Waves_14\(1\).pdf](http://www.mccn.org.au/files/attachments/1206498118_Waves_14(1).pdf)

Oceanlinx wave energy technology, Sydney

"In the current climate, we all recognise the damage greenhouse gas emissions are having on the world's climate, so it's only natural to look to renewable energy. There are a number of renewable energy sources under development, wind, geothermal, hydropower and biomass among them, but one in particular – wave or ocean energy – has always made the most sense to me and increasingly, to growing numbers of energy experts and advocates" said Dr Tom Denniss, Executive Director and founder of Sydney based company Oceanlinx.

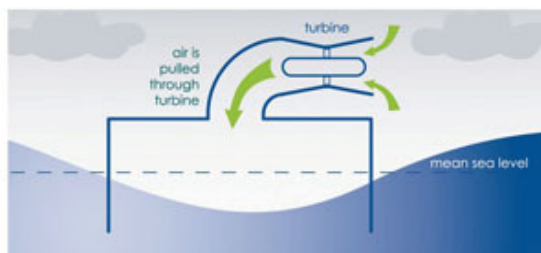
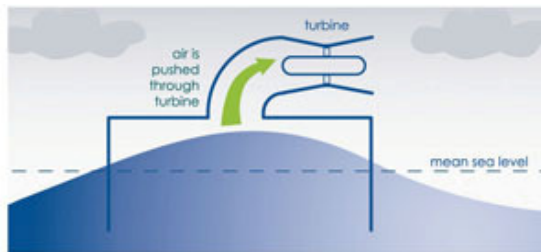
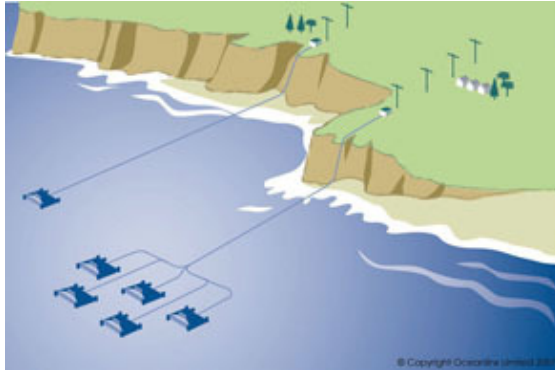
"Wave energy is inexhaustible and is the most consistent of the intermittent renewable energy sources available to us. Furthermore, renewable energies such as wave power are indigenous and non-depleting sources of supply which is positive for long-term energy security" said Denniss.

Oceanlinx is an Australia-based renewable energy company with a system for extracting energy from ocean waves and converting it into electricity or using that energy to produce clean freshwater from seawater.

"I believe wave power has the potential to supply at least 10% of the world's power needs in the future, and I know Australia will be at the forefront of this revolution" said Dr Denniss.

Further information: Dr Tom Denniss T: 02 9549 6300. Note: view full article from WAVES magazine online: “Wave Energy – The Way to Go”

http://www.mccn.org.au/marine_coastal_issues/detail/1418



Images Top: Offshore configurations for energy units. Bottom: How the wave energy converter works. Illustrations courtesy of Oceanlinx.

CETO Wave Energy Technology, Perth

“Zero-emission electricity and zero-emission desalinated water in a single package is a revolutionary concept that could change the way that much of the world obtains its power and water”.

That is the view of Dr Michael Ottaviano, Managing Director of Perth-based clean energy company Carnegie Corporation Ltd, who in collaboration with Renewable Energy Holdings, is developing a zero-emission wave energy technology called CETO.

Named after the Greek sea goddess, the CETO technology converts renewable energy from the ocean’s waves into base load power or freshwater for distribution to consumers.

The CETO system consists of an array of submerged buoys, tethered to seabed pump units. These units are biomimetic in design, which means they mimic the behaviour of a kelp forest in the way that they move – swaying back and forth with the swell, moving in harmony with the motion of the passing waves.

“This movement drives the seabed pumps, pressurising the seawater which is delivered ashore via a pipeline. On land, the high-pressure seawater is then used to supply a reverse-osmosis desalination plant and can also be used to drive hydro turbines, generating zero-emission electricity” said Dr Ottavino.

Further information: Dr Michael Ottaviano, (08) 9486 4466 or enquiries@carnegiecorp.com.au. View full article from WAVES magazine online: “CETO Wave Energy Technology” http://www.mccn.org.au/marine_coastal_issues/detail/1417



Image: Carnegie inventor Alan Burns inspects initial subsea testing of CETO in April, 2007. Photograph by Jason Thomas.

Important for Australians to consider energy options

Australia, unlike many other countries, has a great number of energy options. “The policy framework and allocation of resources, particularly for research and development across each of these options, is critical to their economic and environmental sustainability” said Dr Fiona Mandelc, National Coordinator of MCCN.

“No less important is the provision of opportunities for Australians to learn about and consider these options. By providing more science-based information on key marine and coastal issues, MCCN aims to help connect everyday Australians with some of the latest findings and technologies from our marine and coastal world” said Dr Mandelc.

****ENDS****

Images available: High definition images of those shown above available Anne Briggs at E: anne@mccn.org.au

MCCN Background:

The Marine Coastal Community Network is a national, not-for-profit network. It aims to inform, engage, and connect community interests, government and industry to facilitate positive outcomes for the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecological processes, and the ecologically sustainable use of Australia's marine and coastal environments.

There are currently over 10,000 organisations, groups and individuals who use the services of the Network, covering government agencies, industry and the community sector. More information: www.mccn.org.au

MCCN's WAVES Magazines is a cutting edge, science-based, topical review of marine & coastal issues published three times a year, with contributions from some of Australia's leading coastal and marine scientists. It aims to help connect people interested in marine and coastal science with an almost professional level of information on some of the key issues of the day. It is free by online subscription: <http://www.mccn.org.au/subscribe>

MCCN Media Enquiries & Contact:

Dr Fiona Mandelc, National Coordinator

M: 0407 816 283

E: wa@mccn.org.au

Anne Briggs, Marketing & Communications Manager

M: 0411 035 876

E: anne@mccn.org.au

Ocean Technology Contacts:

Dr Tom Denniss,

Executive Director,

Oceanlinx

T: 02 9549-6300

Dr Michael Ottaviano,

Managing Director,

Carnegie Corporation Ltd

T: 08 9486-4466

E: enquiries@carnegiecorp.com.au