



4 July 2006

Dear Colleague

### **Issues Concerning the Operation of Autonomous Marine Vehicles**

Please find attached the first paper from the Society for Underwater Technology's Autonomous Marine Vehicle (AMV) Working Group, which has been looking into issues concerning the operation of these vehicles, particularly in legal and liability terms.

We strongly believe that these are important issues to resolve if we are going to enable the rapid development and deployment of these vehicles and would very much ask you to review the paper and comment on:

1. The substance and factual basis of the paper.
2. Whether you agree with and support the paper as a way forward.
3. Any proposed input to the next stage – what you would like to see in a code of operation for these vehicles.

Please pass this on to anyone you think would also be interested in commenting, copying to me if you would be so kind. I would be very grateful if any comments could be received by 15 September 2006 as we would like to be able to discuss the outcome of this consultation process at the Unmanned Underwater Vehicle Showcase event in Southampton later in the month.

Very many thanks

I N L Gallett  
Executive Secretary  
+44 20 7382 2601