

Ben Lemeire

Survey Superintendent | Subsea Acoustic Systems | Wreck Survey & Salvage Support

Professional Profile

Survey Superintendent and subsea acoustic systems specialist with over fifteen years of international offshore experience, spanning wreck survey, wreck removal, marine salvage support, offshore energy infrastructure, and hydrographic survey. Extensive hands-on expertise with the full range of subsea acoustic positioning and imaging technologies — USBL, multibeam echo sounder, side-scan sonar, sub-bottom profiler — across operations in European, Middle Eastern, Asian, and American waters. Specialist knowledge of underwater acoustic propagation, equipment-generated noise levels, and the operational parameters governing non-impulsive acoustic systems, developed through continuous involvement in offshore projects where acoustic impact assessment and marine mammal monitoring protocols are standard regulatory requirements, including multiple offshore wind farm construction campaigns subject to mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment under EU and national frameworks.

Core Technical Competencies

- USBL acoustic positioning systems: Applied Acoustics, Ixsea GAPS, Sonardyne — installation, calibration, operational management
- Multibeam echo sounder (MBES): Reson SeaBat T50/8125, R2Sonic 2024, Norbit WBMS, Kongsberg MBES2040
- Side-scan sonar: EdgeTech 4200, Imagenex, and integrated towed systems
- ROV operations: Videoray, Saab Seaeye Falcon — inspection, subsea positioning, survey support
- Survey software: QINSy, Qimera, EIVA NaviPac, Hypack, Fledermaus, PDS2000, Autoclean
- Acoustic noise characterisation and non-impulsive source assessment in relation to marine fauna
- Survey project management, personnel planning, client liaison, and regulatory reporting

Qualifications & Training

- Bachelor of Science — 2007
- Seabotix ROV Operator Course — 2007
- EIVA NaviPac Survey Software Course — 2009
- Applied Acoustics USBL Systems Course — 2009
- QINSy Hydrographic Survey Software Course — 2010
- Saab Seaeye Falcon ROV Course — 2010
- Basic Offshore Safety Training (BOSIET) — 2011
- Ixsea GAPS USBL Advanced Course — 2013

Selected Professional Experience

Survey Superintendent / Survey Manager — Wreck Removal Operations

Extensive wreck removal survey experience across multiple continents and regulatory jurisdictions, acting as Survey Superintendent and Survey Manager on major international casualty and wreck removal projects:

- Costa Concordia (2012–2014, Italy — Titan Salvage / DISA International): Survey Superintendent across two campaigns. Responsible for multibeam surveys, wreck motion monitoring, subsea platform and template positioning, tug management, base station setup, and ROV inspections. Equipment: QINSy, GAPS, R2Sonic 2024, Saab Seaeye Falcon, multiple GNSS systems. One of the largest and most complex wreck removal operations in maritime history.
- MSC Napoli (2009, UK): USBL positioning of underwater drill, multibeam survey, diver tracking, barge positioning. Equipment: Applied Acoustics, Reson 8125, Eiva NaviPac.
- MV Vinca Gorthon (2010–2011, Netherlands — Titan Salvage): USBL positioning, jack-up barge positioning, diver tracking, tug management, ROV inspections, multibeam survey.
- MV Smart (2015 — Titan Salvage): Survey Superintendent; multibeam survey, jack-up positioning, ROV inspections.
- Troll Solution (2016 — Ardent Global): Survey Manager; multibeam survey, motion monitoring of Caan-A oil platform, subsea positioning.
- Kea Trader (2017–2018, New Caledonia — Ardent Global): Wave measurement, 3D mapping and monitoring, drone survey.
- Seaworker (2017, Denmark — DISA International): Full survey scope mobilisation — MBES, SSS, gradiometer, RTK, dredging system.
- Golden Ray (2020–2021, USA — T&T Salvage): Client Representative/Survey Manager; scour analysis, wreck motion monitoring, MBES.
- PAPAA305 (2022–2023, India — Koole/Smit): Survey Manager/Party Chief; crane and vessel positioning, USBL, MBES.

Survey Manager / Party Chief — Offshore Wind Energy Infrastructure

Extensive involvement in offshore wind farm construction survey campaigns where acoustic impact assessment and marine mammal observation protocols are mandatory requirements under EU EIA and Habitats Directive frameworks:

- Norther Windfarm, Belgium (2018 — Van Oord): Senior Surveyor, MBES survey using Reson T50.
- East Anglia 1 (2019 — Boskalis/GEOXYZ): Party Chief, Olympic Artemis vessel; boulder clearance positioning, PLGR positioning, cable removal positioning.
- Borssele Windfarm, Netherlands (2019 — Boskalis/GEOXYZ): Party Chief; boulder clearance and positioning operations.
- Beatrice Windfarm (2015 — MMT): Senior Online Surveyor; multibeam, side-scan sonar, sub-bottom profiler, vibro coring — full geophysical and geotechnical survey spread.
- Gemini Offshore Windfarm, Netherlands (2014 — DISA International): Positioning of jack-up barges, vessels, and pile-guiding operations.

Additional Offshore Survey Experience

- Hydrographic survey, harbour survey (Caribbean islands, Netherlands Rijkswaterstaat, 2017)
- Wreck Atlantic Peach (2019, Koole): Survey Manager, MBES out-survey.
- Bornholm I & II Geophysical Survey (2021, GEOXYZ): Party Chief, full geophysical spread including R2Sonic 2024 dual-head, sub-bottom, gradiometer, SSS.
- Greater Changhua Trenching (2022, Taiwan — Van Oord): Survey Manager/Party Chief; SMD trencher operations, Ixblue Rovins/Hydrins positioning.
- Harbour survey, Saba and Statia, Caribbean (2017 — Rijkswaterstaat): Senior Surveyor.

Languages

- Dutch — Native
 - English — Fluent
 - Italian — Moderate
 - German — Basic
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