

SEATEC NV

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ADDENDUM — AUTHOR QUALIFICATIONS

Revised Annex IV Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species (RAAIVS)

Document Reference: SEATEC-MUL230036-RAAIVS-01 | Application: MUL230036

1. Purpose of This Addendum

This addendum is submitted in response to Point 4 of MARA's Request for Additional Information dated 24 April 2026, which notes that the Revised Annex IV Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species (RAAIVS), submitted on 23 April 2026 under document reference SEATEC-MUL230036-RAAIVS-01, did not include a summary of the qualifications and experience of the person who prepared the report, as required by MARA's Guidance Note for Applicants applying for a Maritime Usage Licence (MUL).

This addendum provides that information and should be read as forming part of the RAAIVS document as submitted.

2. Qualifications and Experience of the Signatory Author

Name: Ben Lemeire

Role: Survey Superintendent / Subsea Acoustic Systems Specialist

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.1 Formal Qualifications

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

2.2 Professional Experience Relevant to the Annex IV Risk Assessment

Mr Lemeire has over fifteen years of professional experience as a Survey Superintendent and Survey Manager in the offshore sector. The Revised RAAIVS submitted under MUL230036 assesses the potential for adverse effects on Annex IV species (principally cetaceans) from non-impulsive acoustic systems — specifically the Reson SeaBat T50 MBES, EdgeTech 4200 SSS, and Sonardyne USBL — deployed during the proposed maritime usage.

Mr Lemeire's specific expertise relevant to this assessment is as follows:

- **Acoustic systems expertise:** Mr Lemeire has operated, installed, calibrated, and managed subsea acoustic positioning and imaging systems across more than fifteen years and over twenty international offshore projects. Systems operated include Applied Acoustics USBL (Nexus, Lite), Ixsea GAPS and Octans, Sonardyne, Reson SeaBat T50 and 8125 MBES, R2Sonic 2024, Norbit WBMS, EdgeTech 4200 SSS, and numerous associated instruments. He has a detailed working knowledge of the acoustic characteristics — source levels, frequency ranges, duty cycles, and propagation behaviour — of all systems referenced in the RAAIVS.
- **Offshore wind energy projects with mandatory Habitats Directive compliance:** Mr Lemeire has worked as Survey Superintendent on the Norther Windfarm (Belgium, 2018), East Anglia 1 (UK, 2019), Borssele Windfarm (Netherlands, 2019), Beatrice Windfarm (2015), and the Gemini Offshore Windfarm (Netherlands, 2014). Each of these projects was subject to mandatory pre-construction environmental assessment under the EU Habitats Directive, including Appropriate Assessment screening and, where applicable, marine mammal monitoring requirements during acoustic operations. This has provided Mr Lemeire with direct practical familiarity with the regulatory framework governing acoustic impact assessment on Annex IV species in offshore environments.
- **Major wreck removal operations:** Survey Superintendent on the Costa Concordia recovery (Italy, 2012–2014) — the largest maritime salvage operation ever conducted — as well as MSC Napoli (UK, 2009), MV Vinca Gorthon (Netherlands, 2010–2011), MV Smart (2015), Kea Trader (New Caledonia, 2017–2018), Golden Ray (USA, 2020–2021), and PAPAA305 (India, 2022–2023). These projects involved complex subsea acoustic operations and continuous environmental monitoring commitments.
- **Acoustic noise characterisation:** Through involvement in multiple projects deploying the specific equipment classes assessed in the RAAIVS — MBES, SSS, and USBL — Mr Lemeire has practical knowledge of the noise levels produced by these instruments and their effects on the marine acoustic environment. This operational knowledge underpins the source level characterisation and zone-of-influence calculations presented in the RAAIVS.

2.3 Assessment

Mr Lemeire's combination of formal acoustic systems training, fifteen years of operational experience with the specific equipment types assessed in the RAAIVS, and direct participation in multiple offshore projects subject to mandatory Habitats Directive and Annex IV species compliance requirements qualifies him as a suitably qualified person to prepare the Revised Annex IV Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species submitted in support of MUL230036.