



ROV POWERED ROCK DRILL

For Immediate Release – 3 May 2005



Landover, MD – Phoenix International, Inc. has announced development of a capability to take underwater rock cores using an ROV.

Phoenix successfully integrated a rock coring system with its 400 hp ROV, Nereus II. Nereus has the unusual ability to operate in a free-flying mode or in a tracked, bottom crawling mode.

The ROV and drill were modified to provide a demonstrated ability to take 5 feet long, 2 3/8 inch diameter rock cores using ROV supplied hydraulic power. Cores can be taken in water depths to 8,000 ft. and on slopes up to 45 degrees. Typical coring time is approximately 40 minutes.

The developed capability offers subsea construction and geotechnical customers a cost effective alternative to rock coring from a drill ship or barge, or through use of surface lowered coring systems. The Phoenix approach allows use of smaller support vessels and has operational advantages when working in high current regimes.

Phoenix International is a marine service company that conducts manned and unmanned underwater operations worldwide. Core capabilities include underwater ship repair, deep ocean search / recovery, submarine rescue, subsea construction support, and engineering design and development.

For further information: Please contact Tim Janaitis (tjanaitis@phnx-international.com) Tel: 301.341.7800; Fax: 301.499.0027, or view our web site: www.phnx-international.com