

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

breaking the surface ²⁰¹³

5th international interdisciplinary field training of marine robotics and applications

financed by Office of Naval Research – Global, us

under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Ivo Josipović

September 30 – October 5, 2013

Hotel Colentum, Murter, Croatia

<http://bts.fer.hr>

Breaking the Surface serves since 2009 as a meeting place of experts and students of marine control engineering and signal processing and the marine robotics application areas in various types of ocean science. We are the world's first successful, multi-year field training program that combines academic topics in marine robotics and robotics application areas and hands-on working experience in the sea, doing remote sensing and sampling for various ocean sciences. We are also unique in that we put strong emphasis on the participation of principal investigators and established research group leaders from across the globe, catering not only to the EU or USA research communities.



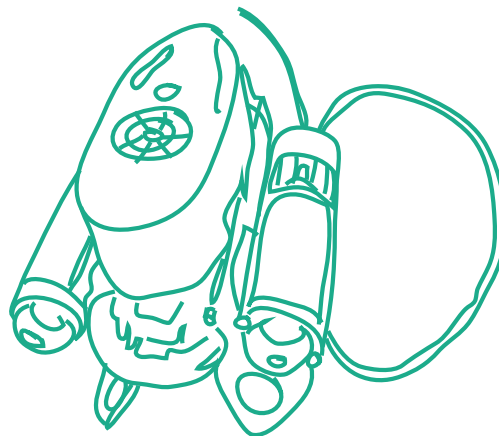
The program is organized along four program tracks of the event:

- MAROB** – marine robotics;
- MARBIO** – marine biology and marine nature protection;
- MARSEC** – maritime security, naval and coast guard operations;
- MARCH** – maritime, nautical and ship archaeology.

It consists of 16 plenary talks, a number of tutorials, and 3 days of fieldwork for all participants. The fieldwork provides an opportunity for all participants to receive hands-on training in marine robotics operations.

For Ph.D. program students of all disciplines, credit (ECTS) will be offered by the University of Zagreb.

Further information, specifically about the program contributors / lecturers, will be published as it becomes available at <http://bts.fer.hr>. Updates about the *Breaking the Surface 2013* event will be available on Facebook and LinkedIn.



CONTACT Dr. Matko Barisic, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, *BTS2013*

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GETTING INVOLVED

If you are a senior researcher, principal investigator or research group leader and wish to contact the program committee in order to find out how you can contribute to the program, please email bts.progchairs@fer.hr.

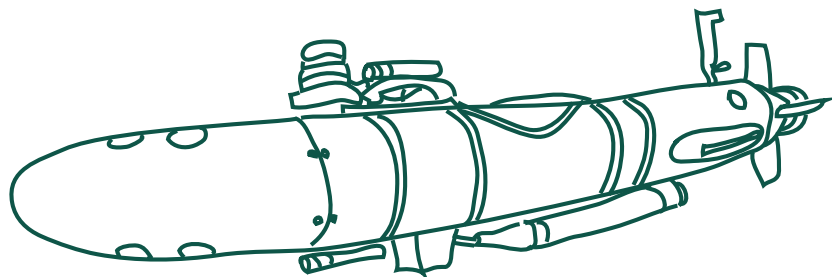
We offer several formats wherein accomplished principal investigators can contribute to the program:

INVITED LECTURES concentrating on the work of the PI's research group, and his/her career focus, as well as recent interesting robotic, control, signal processing or ocean science (MARBIO, MARCH, MARSEC) results, dove-tailing with one of the four program tracks (45 min slots)

TUTORIAL SESSIONS concentrating on the use of computer software in preparing, logistically processing the needs of, commissioning and fielding robotic ocean science missions; or post-processing, re-navigating, batch processing, statistically analyzing, data mining and drawing conclusions from ocean science data sets – videos, images, side scan or imaging sonar feeds etc., from autonomous robots (presented singly or jointly with another team-member or international collaborator; two 90 min sessions)

DEMONSTRATING hands-on the use of equipment: autonomous robotic units, vehicles, systems (ROVs, AUVs, USVs, UAVs); or remote sensing equipment, stereo-camera systems, sonars, radars, hydroacoustic modems etc. (as decided with the program and technical committees of *BTS2013*)

All contributors to the program receive a free full registration and accommodation / room & board costs. A limited travel bursary on a demonstrable need basis may be offered at the discretion of the Program Committee. Final contributors and event formats shall be short-listed by 18th March 2013, from among the potential contributors who contact the Program committee at bts.progchairs@fer.hr by 15th February 2013 at the latest, or from those that the Program Committee will enter into direct solicitation with.



S&T PROJECT AFFILIATION OPTION

FP7, COST, TEMPUS and other EU projects, NSF, ONR, ONR-G, DARPA, ARPA-E, DOD, and other US projects and all types of national and international projects offered by any government or non-government affiliated S&T sponsor / financier across the globe are invited to collaborate with the Program Committee in soliciting participation and contribution to the program. Discounts according to student and non-student project-specific participant group quotas may be negotiated at the courtesy of the Program Committee. Material support by the *BTS2013* Consortium to drafting deliverables, dissemination and visibility materials for such projects shall also be subject to negotiation (access to photos, local PR, appearance in the media and press etc.). Assistance will also be rendered with organizing project meetings, if desired by the affiliated projects, in subsidiary lecture halls / conference rooms. Inter-project affiliations of this type will be specified on the web-site.

REGISTERING & PARTICIPATING

Registration will be web-based, at <http://bts.fer.hr>, opening on 18th March 2013. As usual in *BTS2009 – BTS2012*, the registration and accommodation fees are combined. It is **NOT NECESSARY TO BOOK THE LOCAL ACCOMMODATION**, since room & board are inclusive in the fee. The combined fee includes: all-inclusive accommodation in single bedrooms in a three-star hotel for 8 nights (29th September through 7th October), the full technical program, and the full social program.

The fees will be offered in two categories, in three incremental price hikes:

	DEADLINE	STUDENT	NON-STUDENT (REGULAR)
EXTRA-EARLY-BIRD	by May 13	€350 / \$455	€450 / \$585
EARLY-BIRD	by July 26	€500 / \$650	€675 / \$877
REGULAR / WALK-IN	by kick-off	€600 / \$780	€768 / \$1000

CORPORATE PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

For commercial entities, we offer the Corporate Participation Program option, payable by 26th July 2013 of €2500 / \$3200.

The Program includes: 3 full personal registrations (with full nights of stay and social program), a 30 min time-slot for the presentation of the product gamut on Monday, 30th September 2013, logistical / infrastructural local support and organization collaboration for an expo / hands-on demonstration activity at the prescribed site on Tuesday – Thursday, 1st – 3rd October 2013.

For past commercial participants' experience, you can contact VideoRay LLC, Phoenixville, PA, USA, OceanServer Technologies Inc., Fall River, MA, USA and OceanScan Ltd., Porto, Portugal.