NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2026

MTS IN MOTION

A glimpse into what our members are **working on, thinking about, and moving forward.**

More Than a Moment: **A Summer of Momentum Across MTS**

This summer, the MTS community was active across the globe!

At the 2026 MATE ROV World Championship, hosted in St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador, students from around the world came together to demonstrate their technical skills, creativity, and teamwork. Students made MATE ROV Competition history this year as teams from 16 countries came together to complete missions inspired by some of the world's most demanding marine environments, and tested their ROVs in saltwater for the first time.

Throughout the summer, MTS Sections and Committees also created opportunities for members to exchange knowledge, strengthen regional connections, and engage with emerging issues in marine technology. The MTS Offshore Renewable Energy Committee hosted a Mini TechSurge and Tech Cafe at the 2026 NYSERDA State of the Science Workshop focused on advancing offshore energy and wildlife protection. The MTS San Diego Section hosted several member social events to celebrate and support incoming and outgoing interns.

MTS also continued to advance innovation across the ocean enterprise this summer. Ocean Exchange reached important milestones in supporting solutions for a healthier and more sustainable ocean, while the Ocean Enterprise Initiative brought the voice of the marine technology community to policymakers through engagements on Capitol Hill. The release of BlueConneX further expanded opportunities for people and organizations across the sector to connect, collaborate, and discover new resources.

The next generation of ocean professionals also took center stage. Through the EMERGE program and MTS scholarships, students and early-career professionals received valuable recognition, support, and opportunities to grow their networks and careers.

Together, these moments show why MTS exists: to bring people, ideas, and technologies together so the marine technology community can solve problems, share knowledge, build the workforce, and move innovation forward. Whether you're a student entering the field, a professional looking to connect, or an organization working to advance new solutions, MTS creates more ways to find the people, resources, and opportunities that can help you take the next step.

JOIN MTS & BECOME PART OF WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Did You Know?

The groundbreaking work of MTS Sections and Committees doesn't just stay in our network—it's getting global exposure. Highlights and outcomes are regularly featured in Ocean News & Technology (ON&T) and Environment, Coastal & Offshore (ECO) Magazine, MTS's official media partners.

MTS corporate members receive discounts on advertising in media partner publications. **Join MTS and get connected to the groups shaping the future of the industry.**

Check out the MTS Spotlight on page 55!

Check out the latest edition of eco.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Unlocking the Deep Ocean: **Meet Dr. Jake Russell**

MTS Member, Dr. Jake Russell is working to unlock scalable access to one of Earth's final frontiers: the deep ocean. As co-founder and CEO of Orpheus Ocean, he leads a company building and operating a fleet of autonomous underwater vehicles empowered by physical AI to tackle complex seafloor tasks. Orpheus Ocean spun out of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, building on technology originally developed in collaboration with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

As he works to bring that technology into the field, Russell has tapped into the MTS community to build connections, share Orpheus Ocean's work, and reach new audiences. In 2025, Russell presented at the OCEANS Conference and Fisheries and Benthic Monitoring TechSurge, and his company, Orpheus Ocean, received an MTS Ocean Exchange $100,000 Neptune Award. That connection has continued to grow, with Orpheus Ocean recently joining MTS as a corporate member.

> ***"MTS has provided immensely valuable opportunities for networking with other ocean technology professionals, creating a platform for our technology, and recruiting marine robotics talent," Russell said.***

Among the highlights of his MTS experience was participating in a panel alongside Capt. Bill Mowitt, director of NOAA's Uncrewed Systems Operations Center. Russell described the panel as a valuable opportunity to strengthen an important relationship supporting Orpheus Ocean's ongoing government work.
For Russell, MTS has provided more than a place to share technology; it has created connections to people, talent, and opportunities that can help move that technology forward.

Don't just watch the future of marine technology take shape—be part of it. Join MTS today!
✉ Reach us at membership@mtsociety.org.

SHAPE THE FUTURE - JOIN MTS

CORPORATE CORNER

Sonardyne
GUIDANCE MARINE
Sonardyne
SURVEY

Guidance Marine and Sonardyne Demonstrate the Power of Strong Partnerships

Innovation across the MTS corporate community is helping address some of the marine technology industry's most complex challenges. MTS corporate member Guidance Marine recently partnered with Sonardyne and Veripos to conduct a technology demonstration at Sonardyne's Plymouth testing facility. The demonstration brought together multiple independent positioning technologies from across the three companies. Guidance Marine's DockLock technology, currently under development, demonstrated its ability to provide vessel positioning when GPS is unavailable.

The collaboration highlights how companies across the marine technology sector are combining complementary expertise to develop more resilient solutions for increasingly complex operating environments.

Bring your organization into the conversation. ✉ Reach us at membership@mtsociety.org.

TAP INTO THE COMMUNITY - JOIN MTS

NEXT WAVE

ocean
BUSINESS

Ocean Business Comes to America: Inaugural U.S. Event to Debut in Rhode Island in 2027

The Marine Technology Society (MTS) is thrilled to announce a major new chapter for the U.S. ocean technology community: Ocean Business USA, coming to Newport, Rhode Island, September 28–30, 2027. MTS will partner with Ocean Business and Diversified Communications to bring one of the world's leading hands-on ocean science and technology events to North America for the first time. This inaugural U.S. event will take place at Safe Harbor New England Boatworks and is expected to welcome more than 1,500 ocean technology professionals, 100+ exhibitors, and 75+ live demonstrations.

For MTS, the partnership represents an exciting expansion of how the Society brings the marine technology community together. This partnership creates a new U.S. gathering centered on technology in action, meaningful technical exchange, and the connections that move the industry forward.

"Ocean Business is a special event for the global marine technology community," said Chris Ostrander, MTS Chief Executive Officer. "It's a place where engineers, innovators, students, investors, and operators all show up to explore the leading edge of marine technology innovation. For MTS, it's not just a trade show; it's a working week on the water. Ocean Business is the perfect forum to watch sensors demonstrated dockside, discuss market dynamics with corporate leaders, get hands-on with new technologies, and facilitatethe collaborative collisions that drive partnerships forward. MTS has spent more than 60 years connecting the people who design, build, and advance marine and ocean technology—Ocean Business shares that DNA. We are excited to partner with the Diversified team to bring Ocean Business to the United States, and to expand the substantive technology engagement MTS and Ocean Business are known for."

LEARN MORE

PREMIER PROGRAMS

BlueconneX
connective intelligence for the ocean enterprise

BlueConneX is Here. Are You Connected?

BlueConneX is Here. Are You Connected?

The Ocean Enterprise just got a whole lot easier to navigate.

MTS's Ocean Enterprise Initiative officially launched BlueConneX—a powerful new platform designed to connect, map, and activate the global ocean technology landscape. If you've ever felt like critical insights, players, and opportunities are scattered across too many places… this is your solution.

This is just the beginning. New features and updates are in development, but we want to hear from you! Reach out to the Ocean Enterprise Initiative team for a demonstration of what BlueConneX can do and contribute to the evolution. Send an email to adrienne.copeland@mtsociety.org to get connected.

BlueConneX brings it all together—curated, cross-sector intelligence that gives you a clear, real-time view of what's happening across the Ocean Enterprise. From emerging technologies to key players and market signals, it's built to help you see the full picture…and act on it.

Get in early. Shape the Future of BlueConneX.

ENTER THE PLATFORM >

Big Ideas Wanted: Ocean Exchange Collegiate Call for Solutions

If you've been meaning to apply, this is your sign.

The Ocean Exchange Collegiate Call for Solutions deadlines are approaching fast for students building what's next for ocean solutions. Awards are given to the solutions that advance our understanding of the ocean and help minimize our impact on these resources, even while using them for human benefit, resulting in more resilient bodies of water including healthy marine life and coastlines.

What's at stake? 5X $10,000 awards and the opportunity for students to pitch live on a global stage.

This isn't just funding—it's visibility, credibility, and access to the right room. Finalists present at Ocean Exchange (Oct. 25-27, 2026, Ft. Lauderdale, FL) in front of leaders across the Ocean Enterprise.

Deadlines vary by region. Click here to learn more.

Don't wait. Submit your solution & step onto the stage >>>

LEARN MORE & SUBMIT YOUR SOLUTION

Engaging STEM Education: Back to School with MATE ROV

Looking to bring more excitement, hands-on learning, and real-world STEM skills into your classroom this year? The MATE ROV program is here to help you dive into the new school year with purpose and creativity—whether you're just getting started or looking to level up your robotics and engineering curriculum.

Whether you have a single day, a week, or an entire semester, we've got lesson plans to fit your needs. These flexible resources are designed to introduce students to the world of remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) while meeting STEM learning objectives (and all instructional material meets common standards)! Activities cover everything from buoyancy and circuitry to environmental problem-solving and teamwork.

And if you're thinking, **"*I want in*"**—this is your entry point:

- Start a team and bring MATE to your school or community
- Build skills through the MATE ROV Academy
- Bring hands-on learning into the classroom with SeaMATE kits
- Support MATE through partnership or sponsorship
- Get involved as a volunteer next season

Build. Inspire. Get Involved >>>

DIVE IN - MATE ROV COMPETITION WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER

Your Next Opportunity Starts Here

Looking to take the next step in your marine technology career? The **MTS Career Center** connects job seekers with top employers across industry, government, and academia—posting roles that span from internships to executive leadership.

- New jobs added regularly
- Internships, fellowships, full-time roles
- Employers actively looking for MTS talent

Not an MTS member yet? You can browse—but that's just the beginning. MTS members get access to advanced features like job alerts, resume uploads, and employer visibility.

LET'S DO THIS - JOIN MTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

👀 Here's a peek at what's coming up in the MTS community—just a few of the many opportunities to connect, learn, and lead in marine technology.

- **Sep 15-18** | 23rd International Submarine Symposium | Hamburg, Germany ***Registration Open***
- **Sep 29** | MTS Annual Meeting | Virtual ***Exclusive to MTS Members***
- **Oct 6-8** | MTS TechSurge: Next-Generation Maritime Autonomy | Arlington, VA ***Registration Open***
- **Oct 12-14** | 2026 DP Conference & Exhibition | Houston, TX
- **Oct 16** | MTS Houston Section Annual BBQ | Houston, TX
- **Oct 25-27** | Ocean Exchange Event | Fort Lauderdale, FL
- **Oct 28-30** | 2026 Global eDNA Conference | Seattle, WA ***Registration Open***
- **Dec 2-4** | Underwater Intervention | New Orleans, LA

MTS members get the full lineup, early access, and exclusive invites!

Looking to build your network, stay ahead of industry trends, or find an opportunity to present your research or highlight your company's projects? **We'll help you find the right events for your goals.** ✉️ Contact us at membership@mtsociety.org.

EXCLUSIVE TO MTS MEMBERS!
MTS marine technology society
ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2026 | 9:00 AM & 9:00 PM ET
Join us for a discussion on the current state of the society, recognition of key programs, and exciting announcements of what is on the horizon.

2026 MTS Annual Meeting

Date: September 29, 2026
Time: Option 1 - 9:00 AM | Option 2 - 9:00 PM ET

The 2026 MTS Annual Meeting is an event exclusive to MTS members. The agenda for the meeting includes a discussion on the current state of the society, presentation on the MTS annual award winners, and the results of the 2026 Board of Directors Election. To conclude the meeting, we have allotted ample time for an open discussion with leadership, allowing members to ask questions.

There's still time to join! Become a member today to stay updated and connected with the marine tech community!

MTS TECHSURGE
Oct 6-8, 2026
Washington, DC
Next-Generation Maritime Autonomy:
Uncrewed Maritime Systems Across Surface and Undersea Environments

TechSurge: Next-Generation Maritime Autonomy: Uncrewed Maritime Systems Across Surface and Undersea Environments

When: October 6-8, 2026
Where: Washington, D.C.

Join the MTS Uncrewed Maritime Systems Committee, in partnership with the MTS DC Section and the MTS Bio-Inspired Technologies Committee for a two and a half day TechSurge.

This TechSurge will feature a carefully curated, single-track program focused on three core technical areas: Vehicles, Sensors, and Data. The agenda will include plenary speakers, moderated panel discussions, and contributed talks selected through a call for abstracts.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER >>>

Register Now!
MTS marine technology society
eDNA
Global eDNA Conference
OCTOBER 28-30
2026 Global eDNA Conference
Seattle, Washington
Mark your calendars —
October 28-30, 2026
Seattle, Washington, USA

2026 Global eDNA Conference

When: October 28-30, 2026
Where: Seattle, Washington

Hosted in partnership with the MTS eDNA Committee and the University of Washington's eDNA Collaborative, this conference will convene a global community of eDNA enthusiasts from across economic sectors to build connections, learn from one another, and further advance eDNA science. The global conference will feature three days of concurrent sessions, focusing on a diverse array of eDNA-related topics as well as a set of plenary speakers, a poster session, and unstructured time for networking.

EXHIBIT | **SPONSOR** | **REGISTER**

READY TO DIVE IN?

Thinking About What's Next?

Across the MTS community, members are building the next generation of ocean technology—launching new tools, shaping workforce pathways, and driving momentum in the blue economy.

This newsletter offers just a glimpse. Behind it are the conversations, collaborations, and career moves that are shaping what's next—from students to early-stage innovators to experienced leaders.

If you're working to grow in this space—to expand your impact, connect with peers, or stay aligned with where the field is headed—**there's a place for you in this network**.

📬 Reach out at membership@mtsociety.org to learn how MTS supports professionals across the marine tech industry landscape.

EXPLORE MTS MEMBERSHIP

Meet our Corporate Platinum & Gold Members

TELEDYNE MARINE Everywhereyoulook™
SEA-BIRD SCIENTIFIC
BlueRobotics
RBR
FUGRO
KONGSBERG
SOFAR

MEET MORE CORPORATE MEMBERS

MTS Signature Programs

MATE ROV COMPETITION
OCEAN ENTERPRISE INITIATIVE
OCEAN EXCHANGE

MTS marine technology society

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