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## New Technology The Z-Boat is on Board

It could be mistaken for a large toy at first glance. It's far from it, the 60 pound, nearly 6-foot-long Z-Boat 1800, manufactured by Oceanscience, is actually a sophistcated remotely-operated hydrographic surveying tool. A single beam echosounder is combined with onboard GNSS to provide continuous measurement of the depth under the boat as it follows the survey line guided by the operator. However, instead of having this equipment directly connected to the survey laptop or data collector like on a typical survey launch, a long range wireless link is used to transmit survey data to the shore, where soundings and GNSS position are acquired using software such as HYPACK.

The display on the shore computer assists the operator in guiding the boat by displaying the boat position, heading and the completed survey track. The boat's onboard control and communications module (CCM) accepts up to three serial RS232 inputs: GNSS position, soundings from the sonar and boat heading from a magnetic compass. This data is combined into a single data stream, recorded on an internal memory card and simultaneously transmitted to the shore using either a Bluetooth or spectrum radio link.







## **FAST FACTS Z-BOAT 1800**

- Remotely Operated
- GPS Capable
- Accurate Positioning
- Safe Navigation
- Real-Time Data Collection
- Only Needs 10 in. of Draft
- Only Requires a One Man Crew

