A New Member of the HYPACK Team

Andrew Clos

Hello HYPACK Community,

My name is Andrew Clos and I am excited to announce that I have joined the HYPACK Software Development team. I am looking forward to working with you to help improve and develop the HYPACK software products.

Before joining HYPACK, I worked for NOAA for over ten years. I started as a contractor to NOAA's Pacific Hydrographic Branch where I reviewed incoming multibeam data from NOAA ships. I also sailed aboard NOAA ships extensively to collect data in the field to support NOAA's chart making mission. After three years in this role, I became a NOAA Corps Officer and continued to focus on hydrography. Between the East Coast, West Coast and Alaska, aboard boats ranging in size from 20 to over 200 feet, I continued to build experience as a hydrographer collecting and processing single beam, multibeam and side scan sonar data. One constant throughout this time was the use of HYPACK® for data acquisition.

A couple of years ago, I decided that I wanted to become a software developer, so I departed from NOAA and enrolled at Oregon State University to pursue a bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Engineering. Even before I started taking courses, I knew that it would be ideal if I could combine my experience in hydrography and working at sea with my new training in computer programming. When I heard about the opportunity to work at HYPACK I jumped on it, knowing it would be the perfect fit.

At HYPACK, I plan to view software development through the lens of my field data acquisition experience. For example, HYPACK® is software that runs on Windows® and interfaces with hardware, but this is not what makes it unique. In my mind, the uniqueness of HYPACK® is the often-harsh marine environment in which it is running. Whether it be on a small screen in direct sunlight or survey launch that is pounding through the seas so hard that you cannot accurately use the mouse, I understand what a HYPACK® user is likely to go through when using this software and I am happy to apply that knowledge in this new role to help make your user experience better.

Thank you for taking the time to read my introduction, I look forward to getting to meet and work with many of you over the coming years.

Andrew Clos