

BOEING ROLLS OUT NEW AUTONOMOUS SUBMARINE

News / Manufacturer



Boeing unveiled Thursday its latest submarine, a crew-less undersea vehicle capable of operating all on its own for months at a time.

The 51-foot Echo Voyager uses a hybrid rechargeable system to run for months autonomously, and can also be launched and recovered without the kind of support ships usually necessary for unmanned, undersea vehicles, or UUVs, Boeing said in a news release.

"Echo Voyager is a new approach to how UUVs will operate and be used in the future," said Darryl Davis, president, Boeing Phantom Works, in the release. "Our investments in innovative technologies such as autonomous systems are helping our customers affordably meet mission requirements now and in the years to come."

The new UUV has the ability to collect data, rise to the surface and transmit that data back to researchers "in a near real-time environment," said Lance Towers, Sea and Land, Boeing Phantom Works, in the release. Cutting out the need for ships and crews to operate the sub will

lower the operating costs, he added.

Echo Voyager joins the 32-foot Echo Seeker and the 18-foot Echo Ranger in Boeing's UUV family, and will begin sea trials this summer off the California coast, the company said. Boeing has designed and operated both manned and unmanned submarine systems since the 1960s, according to the release.

11 MARCH 2016

SOURCE: SEATTLE PI

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