Sea Scout™ is a general purpose UUV that deploys from a standard A-size sonobuoy launch container. Its compact, lightweight design also makes it suitable for alternate launch and recovery modes, such as hand launch from a small boat or aircraft. This innovative design eliminates the need for expensive and time-consuming support logistics.

Sea Scout’s size conforms to the A-size sonobuoy form factor (4.875” diameter by 36” length). When in the stowed condition, the whip antennas are bundled together with the parachute assembly to conserve length. Upon water entry, the parachute assembly is jettisoned and the antennas deploy upright, ready for use.

The antenna assembly comprises three individual elements for flexible configuration of GPS reception, line of sight communication, satellite communication and direction finding radio beacons. A weight shift mechanism controls the center of gravity to ensure that the antenna assembly clears the water surface and remains upright when the vehicle is at rest. During operation, the vehicle is neutrally stable in pitch for efficient locomotion.

Sea Scout’s propulsion and control assembly is built around a seawater flooded motor with high power handling capability for a top speed in excess of 15 kts and high efficiency at typical cruise speeds. Three independently actuated control planes provide control authority in the yaw, pitch and roll degrees of freedom for superior platform stability in operation.

Power and signal connections for two separate payload sensors are provided, a wide range of payload sensors can be accommodated. Additionally, the tail section admits payloads that are towed behind Sea Scout, without upsetting its dynamics or violating the stowage envelope.

Specifications

- Instrumentation: Attitude Heading Reference System (AHRS), depth sensor and GPS
- Depth Rating: 200 m
- Energy Capacity (standard configuration): 230 Wh
- Bus Voltage (nominal): 14.4 V
- Payload Signal Interface: configurable, RS-232 or Ethernet