

Rebreather Forum 3 – Summary

VR Technology

Kevin Gur – Very happy with the sensors and has actively pushed the reliability and performance to other rebreather manufacturers. Has already started to leak the information regarding the new sensors technologies to other manufacturers.

Phil Short – Still using the original VST test sensors, has over 2000 hours on them and they are still working perfectly, better than any sensor that he has ever used. He is flying his rebreather manually and keeping a check on the sensors until they die, I have asked him to let us know when they do and how many hours, depth and dive durations they have undergone. Phil explained that they are working with Hollis and that we need not take any action with Hollis, as VR have explained the importance of using the VST sensors.

InnerSpace

Jerry Whately - Very impressed with the sensors and so far have not received a single return. Impressed that Steve had already changed the molding of the sensor case, they have taken a sample to test before giving us the go-ahead. Really impressed with the new technologies and are very excited about the prospects of where the new polymer sensor can be used.

Leon – Very impressed with the sensors and explained that he would not have done the destructive dive test on any other sensor.

JJ-CCR

Dave, Jan and Jan – Very impressed with the sensors. Really looking forward to the new sensors, would like to look into the feasibility of using the polymer sensors in various places within the rebreather. They intend to start marketing in the US.

Revo

Very happy, placed another order with Steve.

Titan

They have an original sensor with gold rings, currently purchased from AI. Spoke with Elaine, she suggested that I should speak with their chief engineer, Web Jesspup, to discuss the sensors in more detail. It will be a complete redesign of sensors, so I will have to discuss quantities with them.

Innovasub / Bogazici Underwater Research Centre

Interested in working with us and would like to have some samples to test.

Amphilogic

Would like the new sensor technologies to utilise in their OEM mouthpiece. Personally I do not think this company will ever get off the ground. I am surprised that Dave Crockford has got involved with Clive.

Divex

I understand that this company is currently working with Teledyne, as their rebreathers are currently for military use. Met Andy Brunton in the bar and he was not in the best of states, but has suggested we speak when I get back to the UK and he can put me in touch with the right people.

Posiedon

Introduced myself to Jonas Brandt at the bar, he appeared to be a little defensive that they have not run with our sensors, I explained that I was only introducing myself, as we have spoke on the phone many times. He opened up and explained that they have heard about the new sensors that we may have to offer in the future and agreed to meet us later.

Kev Gur introduced us to Richard Pyle who is working for Bill Stone, they are behind the development of the Poseidon rebreather. Richard said that he had received some samples from Jonas, but some of the sensors were dead and that there were not enough advantages for them to swap from AI. However, after he spoke with Kev Gur, he believes that his decision may have been hasty and that he would like to look at them again. Steve demonstrated the new sensor technologies and he was very impressed. Richard agreed to speak with the Poseidon people regarding the situation.

We had a private meeting with Jonas and his development team, also we were joined by Richard Pyle and Bill Stone. It was agreed that they will start to conduct testing on the galvanic sensors, they will send us a rebreather to allow us to conduct testing and they are super interested in the future sensors.

Bill Stone gave his priorities for rebreather sensors technologies:

1. FiO₂
2. EtCo₂
3. Fico₂
4. FiCo

Additional Notes

The anaesthetist from New Zealand, who spoke at EuroTek has made a massive impact on the way that rebreather manufacturers are now looking at sensors. They are all looking at ways of monitoring FiCo_2 , Etco_2 and FiO_2 at the mouthpiece. This will only be possible with the new, smaller polymer/solid state sensors, as size and speed is critical.