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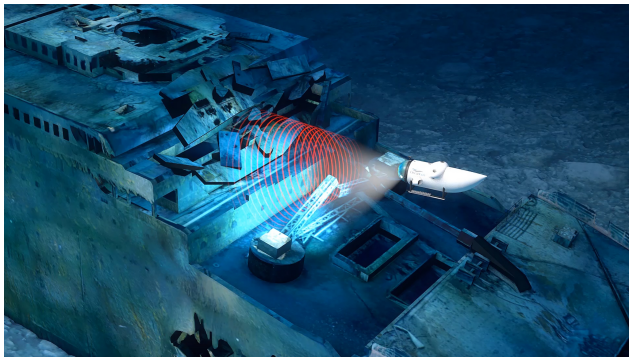
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Titanic Survey Expedition

OceanGate Expeditions Announces the First Manned Submersible Survey of the World's Most Famous Shipwreck since 2005

(Tuesday, March 14, 2017) – OceanGate Expeditions announced today that it will conduct the first manned submersible expedition to the wreck of the RMS Titanic since 2005. The survey expedition team will use the latest subsea imaging technology and a newly built manned submersible to assess the condition of the shipwreck and document artifacts in the debris field.

The exploration team will conduct annual surveys of the wreck in collaboration with experts from the Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory AIVL at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution as part of an on-going long-term study to document the current condition of the Titanic maritime heritage site.



The crew of Cyclops 2, a 5-person submersible, will capture laser, sonar and photographic images of RMS Titanic at a depth of 3800 meters (13,800 feet).

The seven-week expedition will depart from St. John's, Newfoundland in late May 2018 with scientists, content experts, and mission specialists joining the crew in a series of week-long missions. The expedition crew size for each mission is about 20 people, including nine mission specialists, submersible pilots, and operations crew. Qualified individuals join the crew as mission specialists to support the mission by helping to underwrite the expedition and by actively assisting the team aboard the submersible and the ship in roles such as communications, navigation, sonar operation, photography, and dive planning.

"Since her sinking 105 years ago, fewer than 200 people have ever visited the wreck, far fewer than have flown to space or climbed Mount Everest, so this is an incredible opportunity to explore one of the most rarely seen and revered landmarks on the planet", said Stockton Rush, CEO of OceanGate Expeditions.

Experts from the Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory (AIVL) at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) will collaborate on the expedition. Bill Lange, director of the AIVL at WHOI, has participated in previous expeditions to Titanic. His team will provide imaging and lighting equipment and will lead efforts to capture images of the wreck from the submersible and then assemble these overlapping images into a 3D photographic model of the wreck after returning to the surface.

"Our subsea imaging techniques allow us to systematically document the wreck and debris field and then create a nearly lifelike digital model without disrupting any artifacts or habitat", said Lange. "This expedition provides the best opportunity for us to see the wreck first hand, and document the gaps in our knowledge of the wreck." Lange's team from the AIVL will also attempt to collect environmental data at the site and make this data available to researchers currently working on increasing our understanding of

the environment at the site and what steps, if any, are needed to preserve and protect this world heritage site.

Recent advances in technology expand the team's ability to explore, record, and understand the undersea world at these depths. OceanGate is taking advantage of these advances in the construction and instrumentation of Cyclops 2. The carbon fiber and titanium submersible will carry five crew members to the Titanic and other important biological and archaeological sites to depths of 4,000 meters (13,124 feet). When complete, Cyclops 2 will be the only privately owned submersible in the world capable of diving to these depths.

Importantly, OceanGate will not collect any artifacts during the expedition to the Titanic. "We recognize that the entire site is a memorial and we undertake our mission with great respect for those who lost their lives in the sinking", said Rush. The expeditions are to be conducted in accordance with NOAA Guidelines for Research, Exploration and Salvage of RMS Titanic. These guidelines comply with UNESCO guidelines for the preservation of underwater world heritage sites.

About OceanGate Expeditions

OceanGate Expeditions, a wholly owned subsidiary of OceanGate, Inc., is focused on the pure exploration of the undersea world. To do this OceanGate Expeditions has assembled a team of undersea explorers, scientists, and filmmakers who are dedicated to manned exploration of the deep ocean and who bring their skills or financial resources to attack this challenge. Not satisfied with scratching the surface of the ocean near the shoreline, OceanGate Expeditions uses manned submersibles to create expeditions at depths far deeper than can be reached with scuba. OceanGate Expeditions conducts undersea expeditions to explore and document the 95% of the seafloor that man has rarely visited including iconic shipwrecks, hydrothermal vents, deep-sea canyons, and rare biological events around the world. These expeditions, to depths approaching 4,000 meters (13,000 feet), provide rare opportunities to observe the mysteries of the deep sea and expand our understanding of our home, earth, the blue planet.

www.titanicsurveyexpedition.com @OceanGateExped

About OceanGate

OceanGate Inc. is a privately held company based in Everett, Washington. Founded in 2009, the company provides manned submersible services for industry, research, and exploration. OceanGate currently owns and operates two 5-person submersibles that provide deep-sea access for underwater site survey and inspection, scientific research, technology testing, and film production.

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About Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

The Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory (AIVL) develops and operates innovative deep-sea imaging and telemetry systems for use in ROVS, AUVs, manned and unmanned aerial vehicles, diver operated systems as well as deep diving human occupied vehicles. AIVL's precision imaging systems have been used all around the world in everything from underwater scientific and archaeological surveys to high altitude animal health assessments and the documentation of rocket launches. In addition to supporting the scientific community, the imagery collected has been used for educational exhibits in numerous museums, science centers and repurposed for various television and film programs.

About Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI)

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution is a private, non-profit organization on Cape Cod, Mass., dedicated to marine research, engineering, and higher education. Its primary mission is to understand the ocean and its interaction with the Earth as a whole, and to communicate this understanding for the benefit of society. For more information, please visit www.whoi.edu.

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