

Marine Technology Reporter's 13th Annual Report on 100 innovative companies in the Subsea Sector



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Blue Robotics has grown up quickly in the subsea space, launched in 2014 courtesy of a Kickstarter campaign and today boasting 27 employees and more than 200 products.

Since 2014, Blue Robotics line of low-cost subsea components and systems has enabled hundreds of researchers, companies, and explorers to access the field of marine robotics. Its flagship product, the BlueROV2, is a popular mini-ROV with more than 1,000 units in use.

While working on a project to send an autonomous solar powered surfboard from California to Hawaii, Blue Robotics' founder Rustom Jehangir realized a need for affordable components for marine robotics. After almost a year of development in a garage, the T100 Thruster was launched in 2014 and was the first of the more than two hundred products that the company now offers. Today, the company's mission is to provide accessible and high-quality marine robotics components to encourage ocean exploration, to enable industry growth and innovation, and to inspire ocean stewardship. Its customers range from high schools competing in ROV competitions to researchers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab studying under the Arctic ice. Blue Robotics is dedicated to sup-

porting the future of marine robotics and science education and is a proud sponsor of seven different marine robotics competitions globally, while also running marine robotics educational events for students in the Los Angeles area in collaboration with AltaSea and the Boys and Girls Club.

Blue Robotics' product line covers a breadth of technology areas and consistently leverages innovative designs, inspiration from proven technologies, and an emphasis on affordability. The product line includes thrusters, actuators, watertight enclosures, buoyancy foam, sensors, lights, cables, control system electronics, acoustic positioning systems, and its flagship product, the BlueROV2 subsea vehicle. Its patented thruster design is considered be the company's most important technology, using a unique brushless motor design that is compact, inherently pressure tolerant and affordable. The BlueROV2 sports a vectored six-thruster configuration, making it stable and highly maneuverable. There are several expansion options including additional thrusters for 6-degree-of-freedom maneuvering capability, an acoustic positioning system and a single-function manipulator.