SUBSEA CABLES UK

Subsea Cables UK is an industry organisation with the aim of promoting marine safety, safeguarding submarine cables and encouraging excellent practice within the industry. Subsea Cables UK does not broadly differentiate between the Communications, Power and Renewable industry cables as their impact on other seabed stakeholders is so similar. Subsea Cables UK is interested in any cables which land or pass through UK waters including the Exclusive Economic Zone.

Marine Safety Our aim is to optimise coexistence and minimise any hazards caused by the installation or presence of submarine cables to other sea bed users.

Charting/Plotter Data We provide electronic cable awareness charts from a website or by disc for fishing plotters, to all seabed users via our associates Kingfisher, a division of Seafish, www.kis-orca.eu

Fishing Liaison We maintain close contact with the fishing community and associations to promote mutual understanding of each industry's concerns with the aim of dealing with any areas of conflict. We also provide a Fishing Liaison Consultant to assist members with any issues which may require expert help on fishing matters

Sector Forum Our Plenary meetings are held twice a year and provide an unequalled opportunity to reach all of the interested parties and key stakeholders for discussion of common challenges facing us all with safeguarding our futures and the future of cables in general. It provides a connection point for the cable industry organisations in neighbouring countries as well as the EU in general. It also serves to provide the scientific and academic communities with a pragmatic interface for queries and research discussion. Other liaison activities noted above simply reinforce the importance of Subsea Cables UK in furthering the interests of the sector.

Government Legislation Industry consultation and lobbying are becoming a larger part of the effort undertaken by Subsea Cables UK and are seen as a benefit to all its members. It pays dividends to review, propose, counter propose and alter to achieve improvement in draft legislation at the formative stage rather than deal with the consequences after the event.

Projects When there is sufficient mutual interest from the membership, projects are undertaken which will benefit the industry. e.g. development of cable friendly fishing gear

Bulletins In association with Seafish and The Crown Estate we provide fortnightly bulletins for the fishing industry and others of any known potential hazards or vulnerabilities of submarine cables by e-mail and website www.seafish.org/fishermen/kingfisher/fortnightly-bulletin

Guidelines We research and issue guidelines with recommended procedures on many aspects of submarine cable planning, installation and maintenance.

Licensing Subsea Cables UK provides a focus for general licensing issues with the granting authority, although it remains the responsibility of individual companies to apply for their licenses. Environmental issues are also monitored as they form part of the licensing process.

Seabed Owners The organisation provides a one stop point of liaison for general matters of concern between the industry and their landlords although it is each company's individual responsibility to operate and comply with their agreements.

www.subseacablesuk.org.uk

