BOXFISH
RESEARCH

GIGANTIC STEP FOR NEW ZEALAND ROBOTICS;
HEADED TO ANTARCTICA

Boxfish Research, New Zealand's leading underwater robotics start-up have announced that on the 2nd of January 2019, Cofounder and experienced mechanical engineer Ben King, will begin his journey to Antarctica. Accompanying Dr Regina Eisert and a research team from the University of Canterbury, the team will be participating in the Antarctic Top Predator New Zealand programme. With the goal of studying and capturing footage of specifically the Orca and the Minke whales as they congregate through the ice channel that resupplies McMurdo research station. King will be equipped with both the Boxfish ROV and the Boxfish 360 underwater vision systems, which have been designed to handle the harshest conditions in the world.

Courtesy of Boxfish Research

Pre-shoot testing in the coldest place on earth. (Courtesy of Boxfish Research)

Courtesy of Boxfish Research

"At Boxfish Research we develop high-end video solutions for underwater, and have been asked to join a scientific expedition to try and understand better the behaviour of these animals... our equipment is designed to be used by people in real situations and there's no better way to test that than in the coldest, driest and windiest place on earth."

"We hope to capture 360 immersive videos with the 360 camera which will be lowered off the ice with a rope. Then we will be using the unique ultra high definition ultra-stable Boxfish ROV to capture whales from underneath and from unique angles going down some several hundred meters.", explained Ben King.

Through the use of the Boxfish ROV, the research team will have the ability to capture uncompressed UHD video that is live streamed back to the surface on a 17" monitor. This advanced system allows the team to capture broadcast quality footage from depths and angles divers simply can't reach underneath the ice. As well as the ROV the Boxfish 360 spherical camera will also be lowered off the edge of the ice, capturing immersive VR video content on behalf of many that will never have the opportunity to visit Antarctica.

As a growing New Zealand Startup Boxfish are thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in and facilitate this massive research expedition. Through this opportunity, the Kiwi startup is able to expand their audience and prove their equipment has got what it takes.

Boxfish Research is a New Zealand underwater robotics company with a mission to reveal underwater environments with unprecedented clarity. Since Boxfish's founding in 2016, after a chance meeting of three engineers, the team of seven now lead New Zealand in underwater robotics. Boxfish's product line includes two underwater vision systems; the Boxfish ROV and the Boxfish 360. These cameras were designed and created with the goal to provide users with a seamless, semi-autonomous and reliable experience. Boxfish are dedicated to making the best underwater vision systems in the world, with a goal to set a standard across the industry.

Courtesy of Boxfish Research

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NZ tech being deployed in the extreme Antarctic temperatures. (Courtesy of Boxfish Research)