



The Sounder USV from Kongsberg Maritime, first USV to be delivered to the fishing industry, on sea trials in Horten Harbour

Jun 15, 2022 10:00 BST

## PERUVIAN FISHING COMPANY TASA RECEIVES KONGSBERG MARITIME'S FIRST UNMANNED SURFACE VEHICLE FOR FISHERIES

**Norway, June 15, 2022** - Peruvian fishing company TASA have today assumed ownership of the fishing industry's first unmanned surface vessel (USV) for cost effective fish finding and oceanographic and marine resource monitoring. The Sounder USV from Kongsberg Maritime will be equipped with state-of-the-art acoustic technology including two echosounders, a low

frequency sonar and a CTD sensor. Following the final sea trials in June in Norway, the vehicle enters Peruvian waters in September this year, and will start its mission to improve efficiency of capture operations and strengthen data acquisition capabilities to improve management of the available biomass.

The vessel, named *Guardian del Mar*, has a length of 8 meters and the capability of reaching a speed of 12 knots. She does not require crew on board and her operating costs will represent about 0.6% compared to an average vessel of the industrial fishing fleet. With a navigation autonomy of more than 400 hours, the USV completes its mission objectives autonomously under human supervision and will gradually be upgraded with developments on situational awareness and collision avoidance. During the initial phase of implementing this new technology in their daily operations, TASA will gain valuable experience and training by supervising the USV from a nearby mothership. The Sounder USV includes autonomous capabilities such as anti-grounding, automatic object detection, CTD casts and much more.

*Guardian del Mar* will join TASA's fleet of 48 vessels with the purpose of gathering information on the state of marine resources such as mackerel, horse mackerel and anchoveta, providing information on the location of schools to make fishing operations more efficient. In this way, the process of deploying the fleet will be made more efficient and bring about reductions in fuel consumption and the carbon footprint derived from these trips. The USV will also be used between fishing seasons to acquire oceanographic and fish research data to develop a better understanding of the ocean.

Likewise, it will allow the collection of oceanographic information and fishing information that will be available to scientific institutes and analysis departments of TASA to better understand the development of the marine sector related to fishing. Data will also be made available to the Peruvian Navy to inform, identify, and allow people to board in emergency situations.

Other technical characteristics in the system include the use of sophisticated equipment such as Kongsberg's world leading Simrad SX90 fishing sonar and ES80 echo sounder.

“We are proud to bring this technological innovation to Peru, as the leading producer of fishmeal and fish oil. Although it has the purpose of improving the efficiency of our operations, it will also allow us to further strengthen the

sustainability approach in the sector by being able to share valuable oceanographic data for scientific research and adequate fishing management in our country”, commented Gonzalo de Romaña, CEO of TASA.

Bjørn Jalving, Senior Vice President Technology, Kongsberg Maritime said, “KONGSBERG is proud to be a part of the Peruvian work for sustainable and efficient fisheries. TASA has shown a future-oriented approach by integrating the Sounder USV in their operations. We look forward to close cooperation when the vehicle is set in operation”.

As this will be the first marine drone in operation within Peru, personnel from the General Directorate of Captaincies and Coast Guards (DICAPI) have visited the Kongsberg facility in Horten, Norway to see the USV in operation and to carry out the first regulatory framework for the regulation and use of unmanned vehicles, facilitating the entry of similar equipment into the Peruvian sea.

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## **About Kongsberg Maritime**

Kongsberg Maritime is a global marine technology company providing innovative and reliable 'Full Picture' technology solutions for all marine industry sectors including merchant, offshore, cruise, subsea and naval. Headquartered in Kongsberg, Norway, Kongsberg Maritime has manufacturing, sales and service facilities in 34 countries.

Kongsberg Maritime solutions cover all aspects of marine automation, safety, manoeuvring, navigation, and dynamic positioning as well as energy management, deck handling and propulsion systems, and ship design services. Subsea solutions include single and multibeam echo sounders, sonars, AUV and USV, underwater navigation and communication systems.

Training courses at locations globally, LNG solutions, information management, position reference systems and technology for seismic and drilling operations are also part of the company's diverse technology portfolio. Additionally, Kongsberg Maritime provides services within EIT (Electro, Instrument & Telecom) engineering and system integration, on an EPC (Engineering, Procurement & Construction) basis.

Kongsberg Maritime is part of Kongsberg Gruppen (KONGSBERG), an international, knowledge-based group that celebrated 200 years in business during 2014. KONGSBERG supplies high-technology systems and solutions to customers in the oil and gas industry, the merchant marine, and the defence and aerospace industries.

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## **About TASA**

TASA is the world's leading fishmeal and fish oil export company. It is

focused on providing the world with high-quality, value-added marine food and ingredients for indirect human consumption. It has 9 fishmeal and fish oil plants, a shipyard and a refined fish oil plant that are located along the Peruvian coast and 48 purse-seine vessels for fishing anchovy, horse mackerel and mackerel.