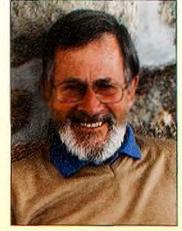


Editorial



Carried over from the April issue is the discussion on the legal regime of Marine Scientific Research (MSR). As discussed in the Editorial for that issue, the topic of MSR has been extensively addressed in the ABLOS (Advisory Board on Law of the Sea) Conference in 2005. The article in this issue provides a background to the previously published paper "Surveying in the Exclusive Economic Zone".

Lidar once again comes in for detailed discussion with two papers by American authors. One discusses the active Coastal Mapping Program, using this technology, by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the other, from the Coast Survey of NOAA, outlines the result of trials of object detection using lidar and Multibeam acoustics. The latter paper is somewhat cautionary on the limitations of new technology. It is a development of a paper originally presented at the Shallow Water Conference in 2005.

Moving to yet another American source, there is a paper on Tropospheric Refraction Corrections for the next generation of the national DGPS service. It may be argued that the subject is rather outside the mainstream of hydrographic interest but precise positioning is a fundamental part of the discipline and worthy of bringing to the attention of hydrographers.

The paper translated and published in this issue discusses matters such as geodetic issues and spatial techniques. It is hoped to include other papers translated from the French in future issues, in an attempt to bring some of the research to a broader international audience.

This editorial may be ended by noting that the hydrographic community has recently celebrated the first International Hydrographic Day. This idea was originally raised by the Russian Hydrographer. Events to mark the occasion took place in various countries as well as in the International Hydrographic Bureau itself.