



MEDIA RELEASE



AIDN-WA Partners with SUT for Exclusive Tour of JFD's Advanced Subsea Rescue Facility



In another example of outreach with industry on 22 April, AIDN-WA, the Society for Underwater Technology (SUT) and defence subseas company JFD Australia worked jointly to conduct a tour of JFD's Bibra Lake facility.

Present during the tour were many prominent members of the subsea and defence industries of Western Australia, as well as interested parties from other sectors.

Referring to the value of the tour, Toff Idrus, General Manager of JFD Australia, confirmed: "The visit by some 25 executives and managers representing parts of the WA subsea and defence industry sectors to JFD Australia was an immense success from our perspective.

"Apart from the pride we took in being able to showcase JFD's local and global capabilities, the opportunity to meet and discover possible business synergies with other WA companies whom share our passion in the professional areas we work in, was priceless," he said.

"A common thread was the understanding that our companies work in sectors whose businesses are more than just about commercial viability (as critical as that is of course) but an implicit 'care factor' regarding how our products and services matter to the safety, capabilities and operations of our clients."

He further elaborated: "I believe JFD is in the privileged position of providing such complimentary support, products and services to both our defence forces and commercial subsea clients; something none of us in JFD take either for granted or underestimate.

"I certainly look forward to working and maintaining contact with the many wonderful executives and managers who visited JFD that Friday."

The response from event partner SUT demonstrated the real value that is derived by industry tours. "SUT is a learned society, whose member backgrounds are typically in the marine sciences and engineering streams, often involved in the offshore oil and gas industry", said Ian Wilson, Secretary of SUT's Perth Branch.

"We were able to witness first-hand the level of expertise and preparedness required to support submarine rescue operations. There are parallels with subsea pipeline emergency repair without the human element.

"The commercial and military diving equipment on display showed the continual development in these areas by JFD. What was evident were the different drivers and technologies applied to commercial and military diving equipment.

"A special thank you to the JFD staff who explained their work with enthusiasm and commitment and to JFD for making the site visit possible. This was the first joint activity between AIDN and SUT and our expectation is there will be further opportunities for collaboration between our members".

Commenting on the tour, AIDN-WA Vice-President Terry Booth, said: "The JFD tour was the most comprehensive I have received over the years and I am sure it was appreciated by all the members of the SUT who attended."

He added: "Following an excellent talk and a video illustrating the phases of submarine rescue we toured the premises in two groups, first taking in the rescue vehicle and its associated apparatus, then the diving section with its re-breathing gear and decompression chambers.

"Seeing all of this in the company of an expert was the best way to obtain a lasting impression of the processes involved".
