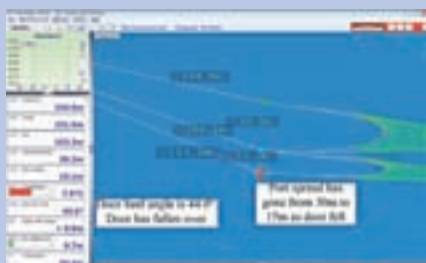


Three-in-one door sensor

NET monitoring specialist Notus Electronics of Canada chose FISHING '09 to launch its new Door Metrics Sensor.

The three-in-one sensor can monitor heel angle, pitch angle, doorspread (in conjunction with a slave) and trawl wire length, and it works with the Notus Trawlmaster wireless net monitoring system.

Francis Parrott, manager (Canada), tells *FNI*: "The sensor will integrate with any of the 175 Notus systems already in the UK. With a lot of these new,



This Trawlmaster display shows 154 metres of starboard wire out and 153.3 metres of port wire out. This part of the sensor also calculates the adjustment in side currents to get the doors in line.

high-technology doors, it's really important to know what angle and how the gear's operating.

"Also, with some doors that are thrown ashore that are not working, we think that this product will help to set them up correctly."

Doors use foil system

THE SPF trawl door – Morgère of St. Malo's latest design – is a higher aspect version of its popular PFV door that has already performed well, particularly in Spain, the company's Helene Morgère tells *FNI*.

The French company now has three designs that have emerged from an extensive research project with the French research organisation Ifremer to develop higher efficiency trawl doors. All three designs are made with a pair of foils so the leading edge forms a set of nozzles.

Water entering the nozzle at the leading edge of the door exits through a smaller outlet behind. This optimises the flow of water over the back of the door.

The PFV and the oval-shaped OFN design – already popular in Spain, Iceland and New Zealand – both use this technology. Now, the higher-aspect, cambered SPF design follows this lead having been designed particularly for semi-pelagic fishing.

Helene Morgère says: "The fundamental technology is centred on the first third of the door. The lift is much the same as with the classic doors, but the main effect is in the drag. These doors have a CD of about 0.58, although



Morgère's cambered SPF trawl door design is particularly suited to semi-pelagic fishing.

this can vary depending on the door's angle of attack."

After a test period of more than a year, the SPF door has been in use for about six months in France, Norway and Chile, with a wide set of uses.

Helene Morgère says: "Some customers are using it for bottom fishing, and some for both bottom fishing and for fishing off the bottom with demersal trawl gear."

Clump cuts ground contact

MORGÈRE has also developed a new design of multi-rig clump as an alternative to the classic triangular or roller clumps.

It uses rollers with narrow ground contact strips to reduce the surface area of the clump on the seabed.

"A large clump for a deepsea trawler could be five or six tonnes but, with the new clump, this weight is limited to three 150 mm tracks, instead of being spread across the



The new-type multi-rig clump for Morgère reduces seabed contact.

whole width of it," Helene Morgère tells *FNI*.

"It isn't easy to measure drag on this clump, but we are aware that, with this reduced ground contact, the drag is lower. So there is a contribution to reducing fuel consumption."

First sales for prawn header

OPERATORS in Denmark and Spain have taken delivery of the first three automatic prawn (langostine) de-heading machines from Albus Solutions of Northern Ireland.

Meanwhile, a Peterhead-based prawn skipper looks set to be the first to fit the machine on a Scottish-based trawler. He saw the machine at FISHING '09 and told the company that he would immediately apply for grant assistance to buy the machine.

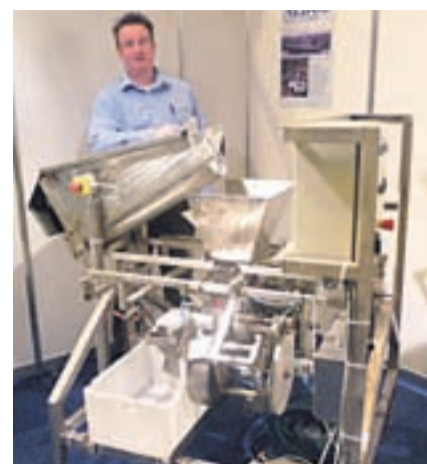
Steve Frith of Albus Solutions says that there is a 12-week lead time to buy the machine which is at present manufactured in Denmark. However, production is expected to be switched to Ireland shortly.

He tells *FNI*: "We are in the process of talking to manufacturers. We will put the job out to tender."

FNI is told that Albus Solutions got a positive response when it recently announced a price cut. "People have been coming across the show to find us and we have had a really good crowd."

The latest improvements to the machine include the capacity to handle a complete basket of prawns at once and an upgrade to a sensor for greater accuracy when dealing with the minimum size that fishermen set.

Single shaker machines have two cutters, and double shaker models have four, to deal with 70 or 135 tails a minute.



Steve Frith of Albus Solutions with the prawn (langostine) de-heading machine now on sale.



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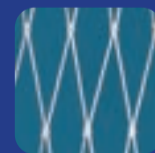
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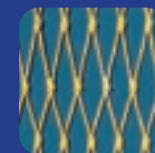
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