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Contributing to the future of surveying by training the industry

Deep is excited to announce the acquisition of Skilltrade, a leading hydrographic training company. Skilltrade will continue operating under its current name, as part of the Deep group, offering a broad range of training programs for the hydrographic and geophysical survey industry.

This acquisition marks a significant step in Deep's commitment to contribute to the future of surveying by sharing expertise, innovation and knowledge. As the hydrographic and geophysical survey industry continues to evolve, the demand for highly skilled professionals is greater than ever. Not just for survey companies, but for the entire maritime contracting industry.

Deep believes that the future of surveying depends on experts who can bridge the gap between cutting-edge technology and real-world application. At the same time, they recognize the urgent need to attract new talent to meet growing market demands. The ability to efficiently transfer knowledge and train personnel is essential to maintaining high industry standards. With the acquisition of Skilltrade, Deep reinforces its commitment to supporting this evolution while continuing to serve a broad client base as a trusted independent subcontractor. This marks Deep's development towards diversifying their service portfolio.

Skilltrade's established training programs include:

- **Category B Hydrographic Training Program** – Preparing certified surveyors for the market while ensuring alignment with internationally recognized quality standards, with the first online certified Cat B program.
- **Short Courses for Industry Experts** – Keeping professionals up to date with the latest developments in surveying techniques and technologies, with new (online) courses being developed this year.
- **Comprehensive Educational Resources** – Widely used textbooks and learning materials used to educate surveyors worldwide.

Skilltrade doesn't just offer courses—they invest in the future of surveying. Their mission is to enhance project efficiency, drive innovation, and elevate problem-solving capabilities across the industry. By equipping professionals with the skills and expertise they need.

"We are excited and proud to combine Skilltrade's vast experience in training with 25 years of Deep's independent hydrographic and geophysical services. At Deep, we strive for quality and innovation in all our projects. With Skilltrade, it's our ambition to provide effective training to everyone, while adding the latest technology and developments in the industry. This acquisition and the opportunities it presents, inspire us to take survey training to the next level."

Dieuwertje Smalenburg, CEO Deep group & Deep BV.

"From our very first meeting, I was impressed by Dieuwertje Smalenburg's vision and the strong foundation Deep has built in the hydrographic industry. What stood out to me most was our shared passion for the profession and our commitment to meeting the growing demand for skilled professionals. Joining the Deep group allows us to continue the path we've set with the Skilltrade team and instructors, ensuring the long-term future of high-quality hydrographic training. I'm proud to join a company that shares my vision and dedication to shaping the next generation of surveyors."

Johan Stam, managing director Skilltrade BV

For more information, please visit www.skilltradesurveyacademy.com or send an email to info@skilltradesurveyacademy.com.

About the Deep group

The Deep group consists of Deep BV and Skilltrade.

Deep BV is an internationally operating engineering company specialized in hydrography, marine geophysics, UXO surveys and precise marine positioning. Founded in 1999 and ever since headquartered in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Operating in nearshore, coastal zones, seaports, and inshore waterways, Deep supports clients with projects across the world.

Skilltrade specializes in hydrographic training, operating worldwide. Skilltrade's established training programs include a Category B hydrographic training program, short courses for industry experts and comprehensive educational resources.