



**European Gliding Observatories Network (EGO)**  
**Action ES0904**

**WG2**  
**Glider vehicle, sensors, and**  
**“gliderports” infrastructures**

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# Sensors

## Parameters:

- Hydrographic (temperature, salinity and density)
- Optical (suspended matter, chlorophyll a, turbidity, oxygene, nutrients, hydrocarbon, CDOM, ...)
- Acoustic (currents, noise from physical processes or biology)
- Physical (turbulence, waves)
- ...

# Sensor Suites





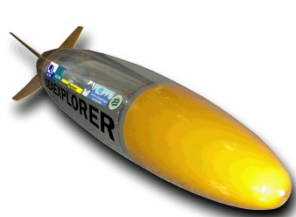
## Sensors

**The CTD is the most used sensor on gliders, but still plagued with unsorted issues:**

**Workshop October 2013 to gather experts within the community**

- **Pumped CTD vs. free-flush CTD**
- **Thermal lag**
- **Sensor mismatch**
- **Sensor timings**

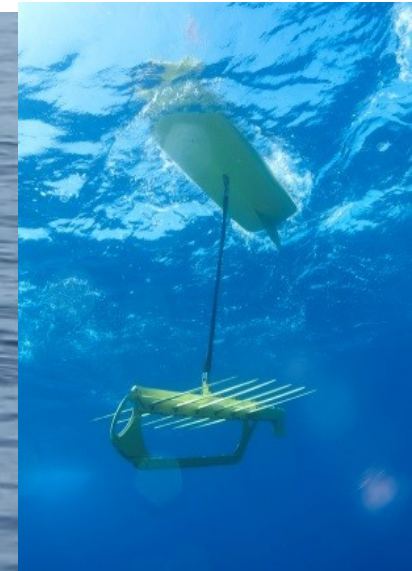
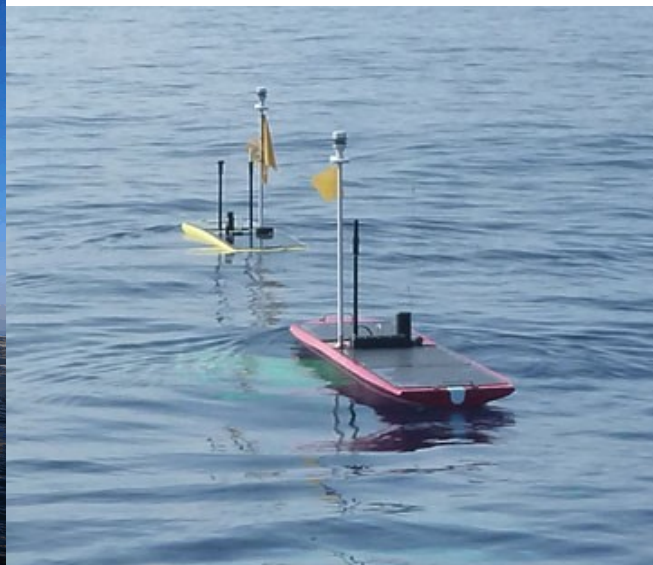
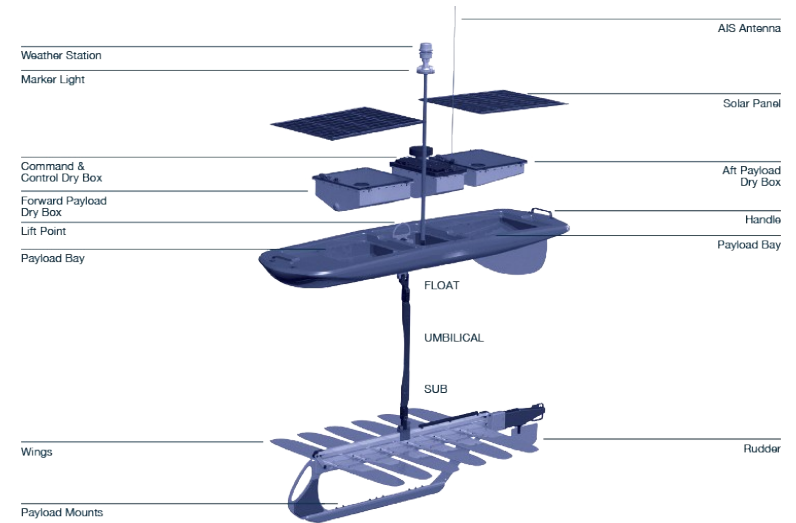
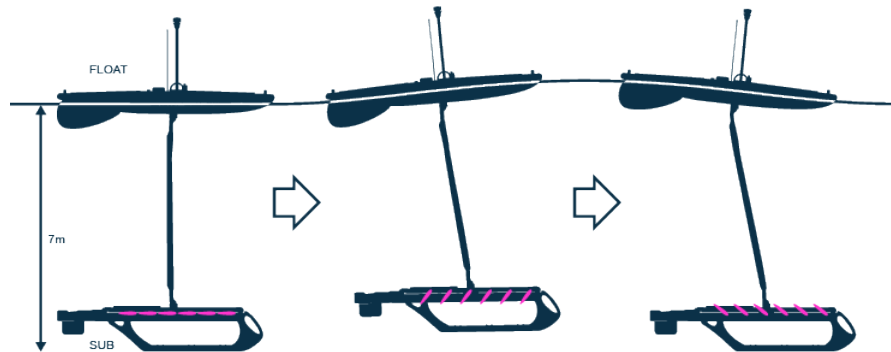
# Glider technology



	SeaExplorer	Seaqlider	Spray	Slocum
Wingspan	56,5 cm	100cm	110cm	120cm
Volume change	1.0L	0.84L	0.9L	0.45L
Nominal Speed	0.5 m/s	0.25 m/s	0.25 to 0.35 m/sec	0.3 to 0.4 m/sec
Dimensions	L=290cm Diam=24cm	L=330cm Diam=30cm	L=200cm Diam=20cm	L=215cm Diam=21cm
	Mass=59 kg	Mass=52 kg	Mass=51 kg	Mass=52 kg
Ballast Efficiency	60 (25)% efficient @ 700 (100) dbar	40 (8)% efficient @ 1000 (100) dbar	50 (20)% efficient @ 1000 (100) dbar	50% efficient @ 200 dbar
Payload capacity	Dry section: 5.5Kg + Wet section: Up to 3Kg	4Kg	3.5kg	3 to 4 kg
Puck ports	4	0	0	4
Operating	700m	1000m	200-1500m	200m or 1000m
Batteries	8.6MJ, Rechargeable	10MJ, Primary Lithium	13MJ, Primary lithium	8MJ Primary alkaline Or Lithium
Refueling cost	Free	1375\$	2850\$	~1000\$ (Alkaline) ~10000\$ (Lithium)
Origin	Europe (France)	US	US	US



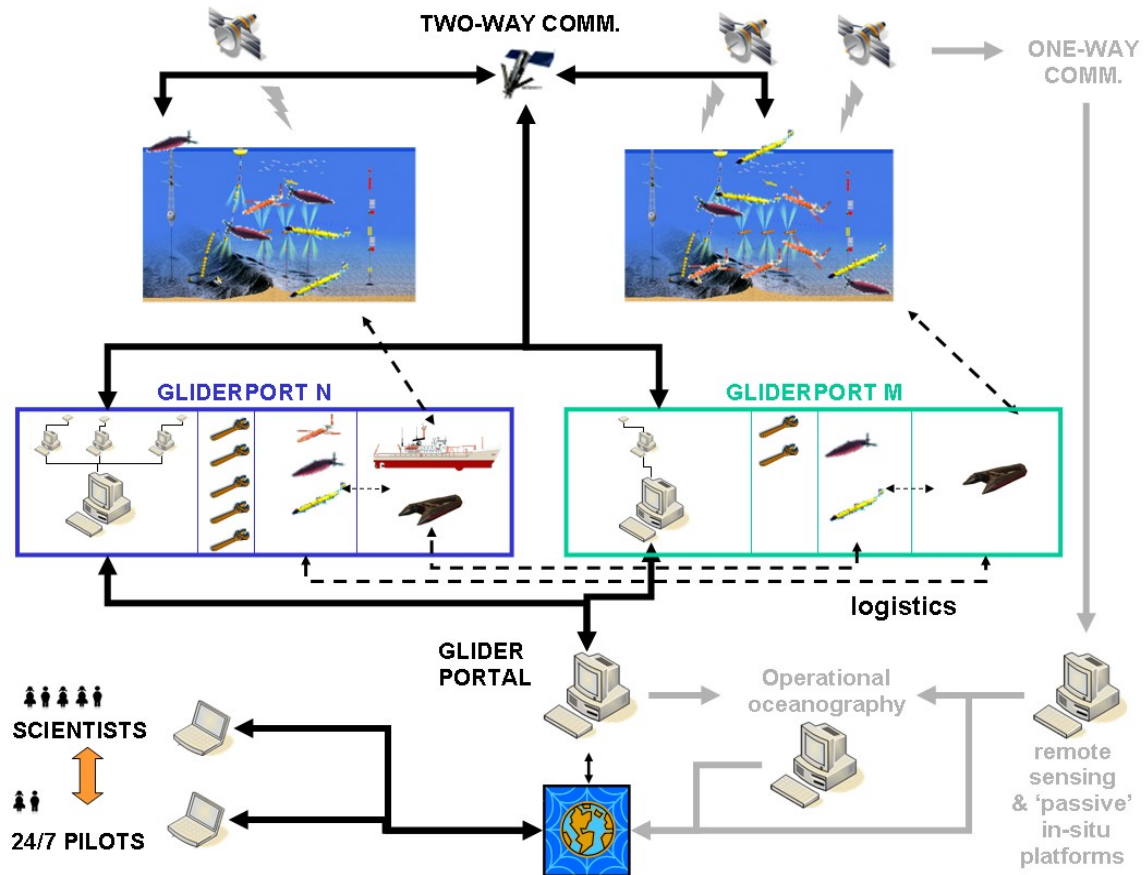
# Wave glider



# Sail buoy (PLOCAN)



# Concept of glider ports



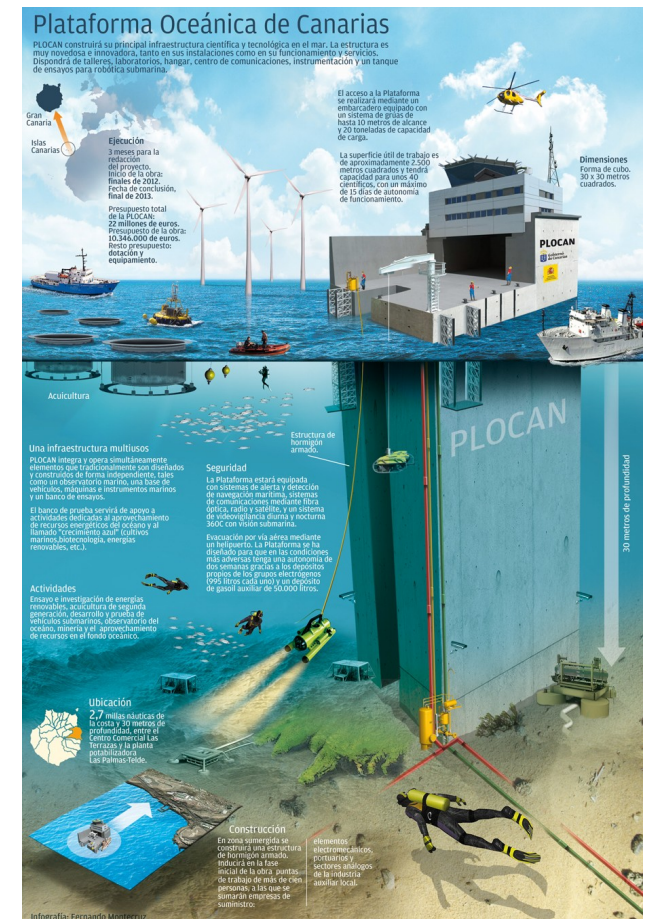


## Description:

## Glider ports are facilities that

- **Provide a means for glider preparation**
- **Provide a means for glider piloting**
- **Handle data (near-real time and post-mission)**
- **Provide a means deployment and recovery**
- **Play a role in sensor or vehicle development**
- **Provide access to sensor calibration setups**

**... or a subset of these attributes.**



# Glider lab at HZG

- Ballast tank
- Workbench
- Crane
- Storage



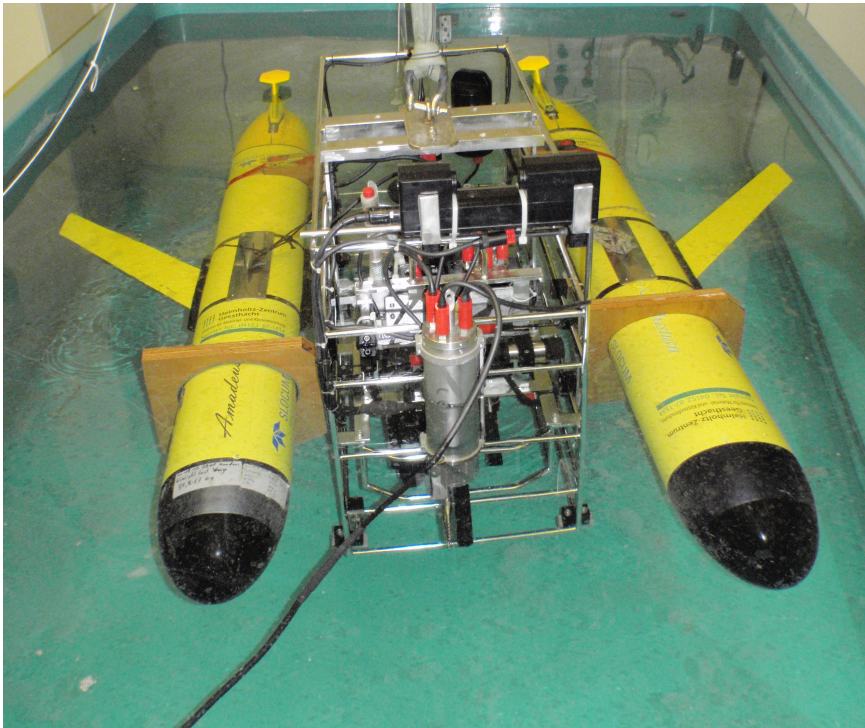


# Special facilities: a pressure chamber at SOCIB



# Special facilities: sensor calibration facilities

(in-situ) sensor calibration  
Frame (HZG)



laboratory CTD calibration setup  
(OGS)





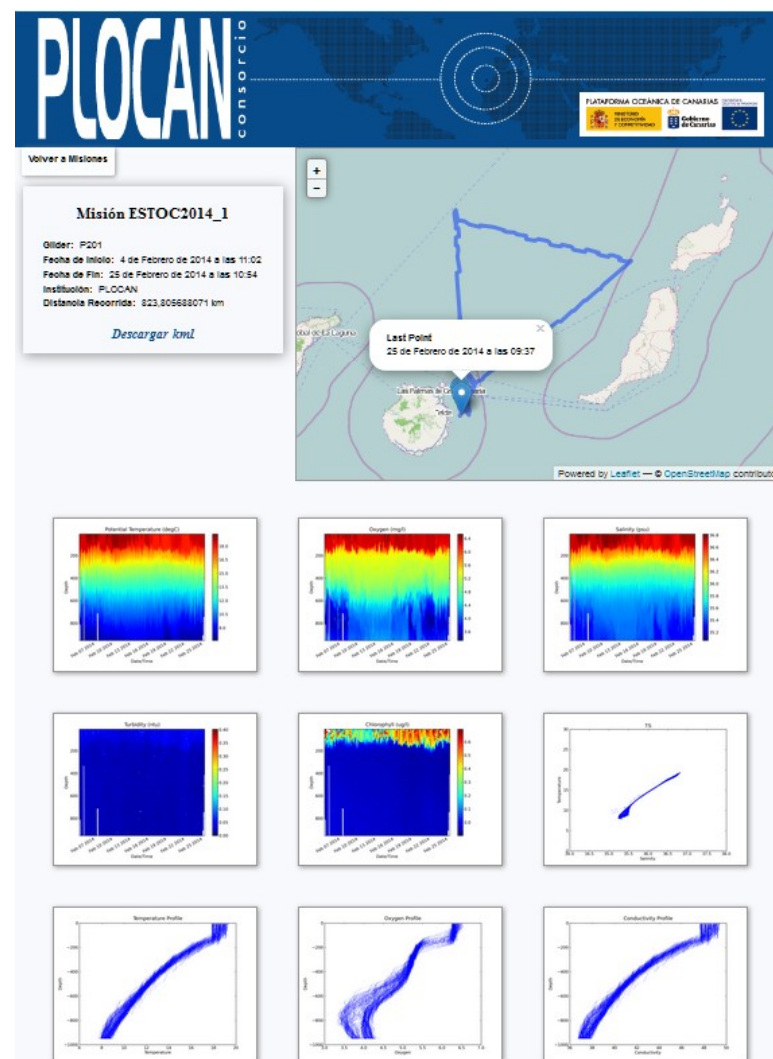
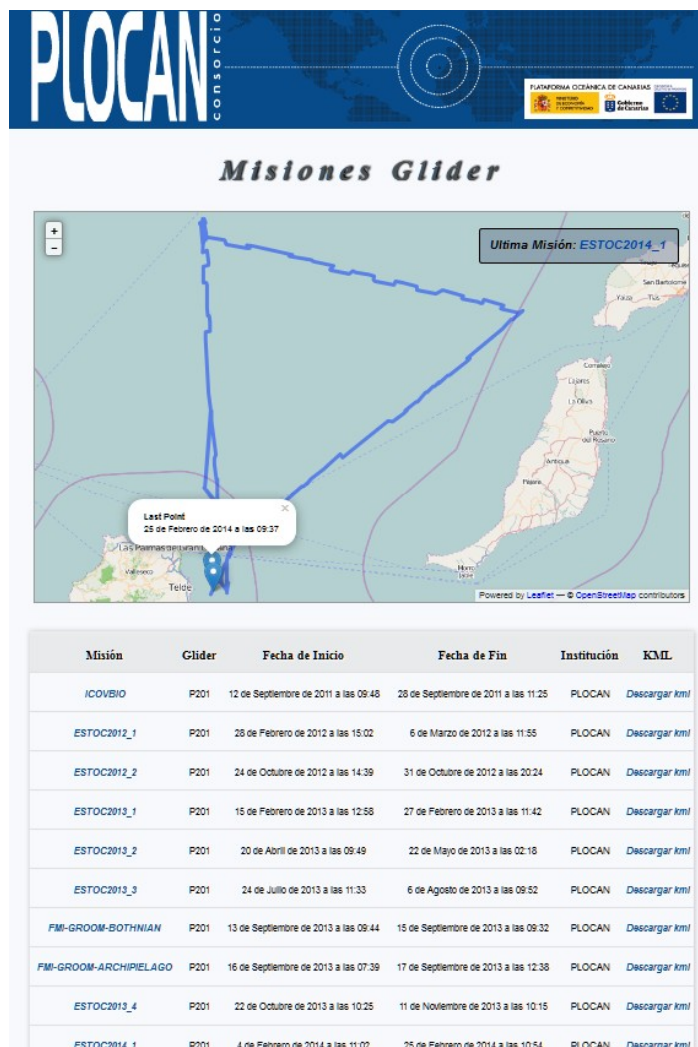
# Support for deployment and recovery

## Research vessels (PLOCAN)

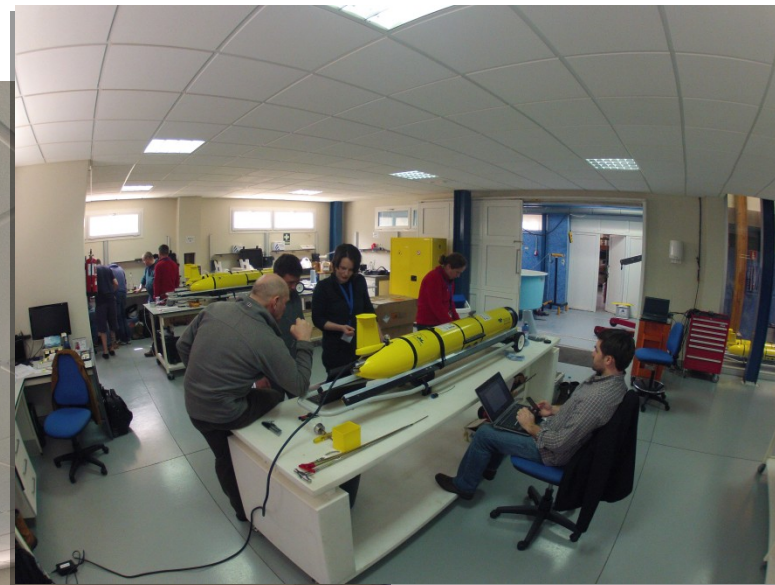




## Data visualisation (example from PLOCAN)



## Training facilities



# Where do we find gliderports in Europe?

Not shown are  
facilities in:

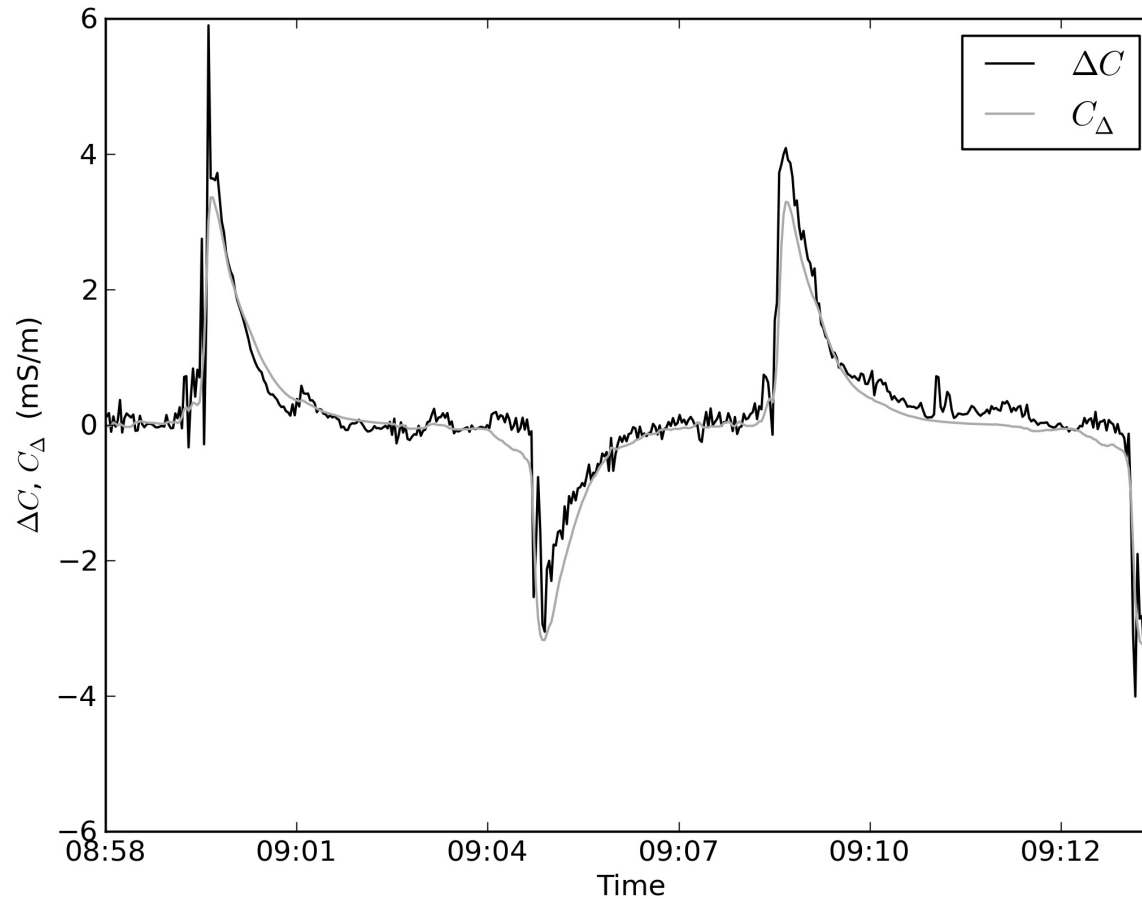
- Cape Verde
- Chile
- Australia
- USA





# Sensors (CTD)

Example of where it works for a pumped CTD:



Thanks to  
totally mixed  
salinity



## Sensors (CTD)

- **Pumped CTD suffers from smaller thermal lag effects.**
- **Strong/sharp thermoclines (like in North Sea) pose new issues due to timing mismatches between sensors.**
- **Only to some extent correctable.**
- **Database with a wide range of different C-T profiles.**