

Measurement Technology NW designs and manufactures sophisticated testing and measurement instrumentation systems for a variety of commercial, research, and government clients worldwide.

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Your source for advanced winch line control and monitoring systems

Project Profile #7 – R/V “Weatherbird II”

Originally founded in 1903, the Bermuda Biological Station for Research (BBSR) became a year-round research center in 1954 with the establishment of Hydrostation "S" - a time series of regular, repeated deep-sea observations that now, 50+ years later, represents the longest continuous oceanic database in the world. Maintaining the Hydrostation "S" study is a primary responsibility for scientists and crew aboard the R/V "Weatherbird II", BBSR's 115-foot oceangoing research vessel. As a general purpose oceanographic vessel, the Weatherbird II is capable of performing CTD and hydrographic casts to 7,000 meters. The stern A-frame and six on-deck winches are kept busy deploying mooring arrays, benthic landers and sound sources, setting and recovering current meters, conducting biological trawls and other deep-sea marine operations.

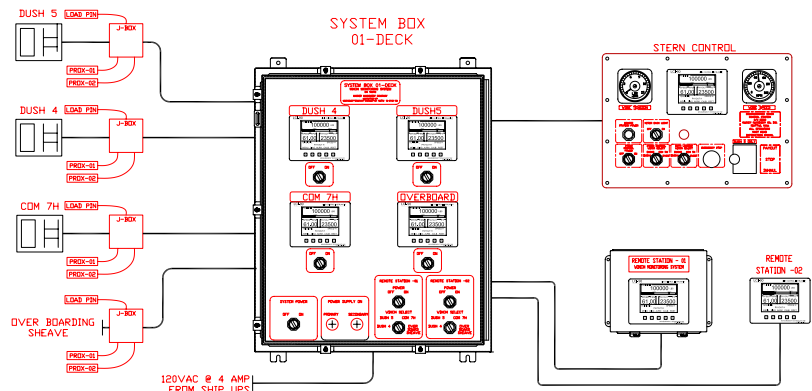


Captain Lee Black, Marine Superintendent for the BBSR, wanted to update the ship's winch monitoring systems to include more advanced data logging, and he approached Markey Machinery for a recommendation. Based on past successes, the Markey team asked **Measurement Technology NW** to take on the task.

According to Lee, "Deciding between a switched display system and a dedicated display system was tough, and we went through several good designs from Measurement Technology NW before selecting a hybrid system that gave us the best of both worlds. Now on the “Weatherbird II”, each winch has a dedicated LCI-90 display but its RS-485 data output can be switched for remote

viewing at the stern console or at either of our two remote stations. At the bridge I can switch between any winch and see all the line parameters in real time, while the shipboard computer stays connected 24/7 for data logging. It's a great system that I've already recommended to other vessel operators."

Stuart Halewood, BBSR's Senior Marine Technician, adds, "The new LCI-90 system is a big step forward. By just flipping a switch we can see data from any active winch, and we can continuously data log all line parameters from every winch. At the end of a cruise I'm now able to give the scientists a CD containing all the winch data from their activities, and that's been very much appreciated. When the research scientists leave happy, I'm happy."



Custom installations like the BBSR's "Weatherbird II" highlight the power and versatility of Measurement Technology NW's LCI displays, and help show off the marine engineering expertise we bring to every project. Why not let the next project be yours? For needs as simple as a drop-in replacement for a failed LM-2000, to complex assignments like a new shipboard winch monitoring system, MTNW's rugged, high-performance LCI-90/LCI-100 displays and versatile WinchDAC software for the PC give you the power to do more than you ever could before.

Find out what MTNW can do to boost the capabilities of your winch monitoring system by contacting us at 206-634-1308, or sending an email inquiry to lici@mtnw-usa.com.

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