

12.11.2024

Ocean Ecostructures becomes the first company to set up in the new BlueTechPort space

- **The refurbishment work is now complete on the first warehouse of the Sant Bertran wharf sheds where BlueTechPort will incorporate companies dedicated to innovation in the Blue Economy.**

The company Ocean Ecostructures, specialised in developing large-scale solutions for renaturing marine biodiversity, has set up in the north warehouse of the Sant Bertran wharf sheds at the Port of Barcelona, which is the new headquarters of the BlueTechPort innovation hub. It is the first company to occupy these new facilities, which will host startups, innovative companies and technology centres dedicated to designing and developing blue economy projects.

Ocean Ecostructures has developed the Bio Boosting System® to stimulate biodiversity and marine regeneration in port and maritime infrastructures. This system is implemented using Life Boosting Units® (LBU), micro biomimetic reefs designed to create complex and resilient ecosystems over a short period of time. LBUs combine a microfauna attraction system, a natural substrate that maximises the capture of marine life, and a multilayer design that helps fish and crustaceans to grow, turning ports, wind farms and other underwater infrastructure into biological regeneration points.

These innovative structures also incorporate a robot monitoring system using underwater drones making it possible to measure key indicators such as the amount of biomass generated, the number of new species hosted and the amount of CO2 captured. Ocean Ecostructures incorporates the IOceans digital platform and its own app that use artificial intelligence to access this data in real time.

Ocean Ecostructures has installed more than 250 bioregeneration units at various locations, with a further 650 units currently being installed. Thanks to these efforts, 297 new species have been hosted, more than 3 tonnes of biomass generated and 1.1 tonnes of CO2 captured. Ocean Ecostructures has set itself the goal of regenerating 20,000 marine spaces by 2030, transforming industrial infrastructures into living ecosystems that foster biodiversity and contribute to environmental sustainability.

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BlueTechPort

Ocean Ecostructures is the first company to set up shop in the new spaces that **BlueTechPort** is building in the old sheds on Sant Bertran wharf. After launching in mid-2023 in Tech Barcelona spaces, at Pier01, located in the Palau de Mar, and with 18 startups already operating there, BlueTechPort is developing an ambitious project covering more than 25,000 square metres for companies, institutions and knowledge centres related to the Blue Economy.

Phase one of this project, which the Port of Barcelona is developing in collaboration with World Trade Center Barcelona (WTCB), is already complete, helping to grow sectors related to the Blue Economy. BlueTechPort, together with the BCN Port Innovation Foundation, are the Port of Barcelona's tools for fostering innovation in its Port Community and smoothing the transformation towards models prioritising technology and respecting the environment, fostering compatibility between economic development and conservation of the marine environment.

Photo: Rendering of the completed BlueTechPort installations in the sheds on Sant Bertran wharf.



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