

WinFrog Device Group:	PLOW
Device Name/Model:	Seamole1
Device Manufacturer:	Bolle & Cords Elektrotechnik GmbH Gewerbestr. 16 D-25358 Horst Germany Tel: 04126-38812 Fax: 04126-38813 Email: info@bolle-cords.de
Device Data String(s) Output to WinFrog:	
WinFrog Data String(s) Output to Device:	
WinFrog Data Item(s) and their RAW record:	PLOWDATA 490 ROV REF VEH NONE BOTTOMDEPTH 411

DEVICE DESCRIPTION:

This driver requests plow related data from the Seamole device. It is also used for deriving real-time positions for the Seamole. This driver reads a limited amount of data from the Seamole device. The Seamole2 driver can also be used for this device and reads additional data.

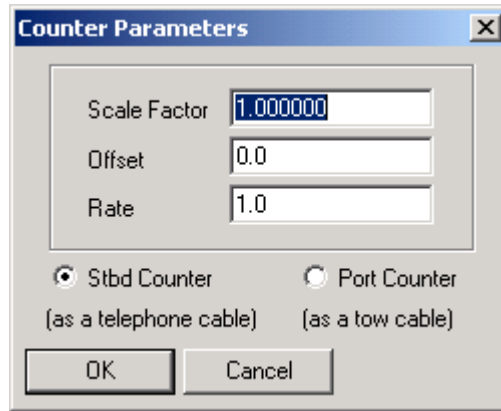
DEVICE CONFIGURATION INSTRUCTIONS

WINFROG I/O DEVICES > EDIT I/O:

Serial
Configurable Parameters

WINFROG I/O DEVICES > CONFIGURE DEVICE:

This device must be configured at the I/O Device window level. In the I/O Devices window, click the device name to select it, then right-click and select Configure Device. The Counter Parameters dialog box appears, as seen below.



If you determine that the incoming cable count is incorrect, possibly due to a mis-calibration of the counter itself, you can enter a compensating Scale Factor here. This can also be used to convert incoming units to the desired units. Also, you can enter an offset value and cable payout rate factor in the appropriate fields. The payout rate factor works the same as the Scale Factor where you can compensate for a mis-calibration and/or convert the incoming units. You also have the option to switch between the Starboard and Port counters as required.

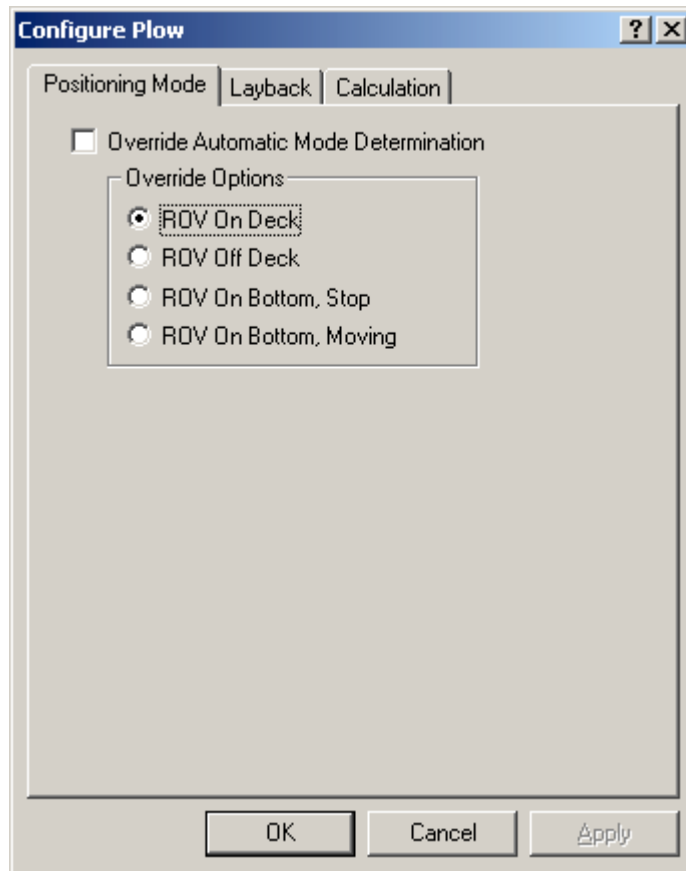
WINFROG VEHICLE > CONFIGURE VEHICLE DEVICES > DEVICE DATA ITEM > EDIT:

Adding the Seamole1 device creates three data items: PLOWDATA, ROV REF VEH and BOTTOMDEPTH. Once the data items have been added to the vehicle, they must be edited to suit the application.

Data item: ROV, Seamole1, PLOWDATA

This data item is used to read plow related data as well as to provide a reference point on the plow for positioning the plow relative to the ship. It is typically added to the plow vehicle in WinFrog.

Highlight this data item in the vehicle's device list and click the Edit button to open the Configure Plow dialog box as seen below.



Positioning Mode tab

Override Automatic Mode Determination:

This checkbox determines whether WinFrog automatically determines the towed vehicle location and mode or whether the operator determines it.

When in automatic mode, WinFrog uses the following criteria to determine the mode of the towed vehicle:

ROV On Bottom, Moving is assumed if the speed is greater than .2 knots or the Use ROV Speed setting is off and the layback is calculated at more than 1 meter.

ROV Off deck is assumed if the speed is greater than .2 and the layback is calculated at less than 1 meter and the altitude is greater than 4 meters.

ROV On deck is assumed if the speed is 0 and the layback calculated is less than the sum of the depth offset entered on the Calculations tab and the Tow point above water entered on the ROV REF VEH dialog.

ROV On Bottom, Stopped is assumed if none of the others are true.

Override Options:

ROV On deck places the towed vehicle on the tow vessel 5 meters forward of the offset point entered in the ROV REF VEH dialog.

ROV Off deck places the towed vehicle on the tow vessel at the tow point, which is the offset point entered in the ROV REF VEH dialog.

ROV On Bottom, Stop leaves the vehicle where it was when this option was selected and makes no further calculations as to its position.

ROV On Bottom, Moving calculates the towed vehicle's position using the data available and updates all displays with this data.

The screenshot shows the 'Configure Plow' dialog box with the 'Layback' tab selected. The 'Positioning Mode' tab is also visible. The 'Layback Calculation Method' section has two radio buttons: 'Pythagorean' (selected) and 'Catenary'. To the right of these is a text box for 'Tow Cable Constant' containing the value '73.29051' and the unit 'N/m'. Below this are three sections: 'Use ROV Depth' with 'Yes' and 'No' radio buttons ('No' is selected), 'Use ROV Speed' with 'Yes' and 'No' radio buttons ('No' is selected), and 'Use ROV Tow Angle' with 'Yes' and 'No' radio buttons ('No' is selected). To the right of these is a 'Trench Depth' section with a text box for 'Offset' containing the value '0.0cm'. At the bottom are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply' buttons.

Layback tab

Layback Calculation Method

Pythagorean uses the depth and cable count to form a right triangle. The layback is then calculated and applied to the tow vehicle's offset position along with an azimuth based upon the previous towed vehicle's raw position. WinFrog will use this position to calculate an azimuth but use the calculated layback for the distance between the towed vehicle and the tow vehicle.

The right triangle is formed thus: the hypotenuse is the cable count and the vertical value is the sum of the depth, Tow Point Above Water and the z offset found on the Calculations tab.

Catenary requires the weight of the cable in newtons/meter, (1lbs/ft = 14.63nt/m). This calculation uses the cable count, depth of the towed vehicle and the tow tension to calculate the layback using a static catenary model. The azimuth used is the same as described above.

Use ROV Depth

Yes causes two actions:

- 1) The depth obtained from this device will be added to the depth offset and assigned to this vehicle. The depth offset is entered in the Calculation tab. The depth obtained from this device is either the manually entered value (if applicable) or the depth from one of the data items from the selected device.
- 2) The depth obtained from this device is used to determine the layback. No offset is applied except which may be applied at the source device.

No causes the depth for the layback calculation to be obtained from the vehicle. Essentially, this means the depth must be assigned by another device. This overrides the selection of a device or manual entry of depth.

Use ROV Speed

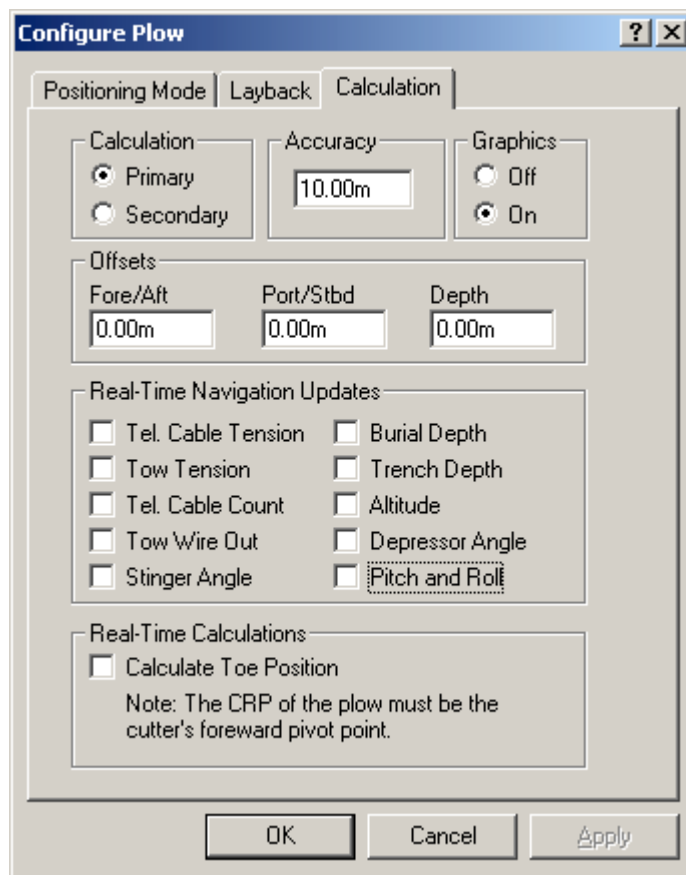
Yes causes the speed of the device to be obtained from this device. This requires that the towed vehicle in use must have the ability to output a speed in its data string. If it does not, then select No. **No** causes the speed to be calculated from the positional information and time. It will be assigned to the vehicle.

Use ROV Tow Angle

This option only applies to the SeaplowVIII Device.

Trench Depth

Offset – If the Trench depth checkbox is selected on the Calculation tab (see below) then this value, 0.0 or otherwise, will be assigned as this vehicle's trench depth.



Calculation tab

Calculation

Primary – when selected, the layback described above will be used to calculate this vehicle's position, which will be assigned to it.

Secondary – when selected, this device will not determine this vehicle's position.

Accuracy

The Kalman filter uses this value as a weight factor. It should be set to a reasonable value.

Graphics

Select the On radio button to display a square in the Graphics and Bird's Eye windows at the offset position below.

Offsets

The **Fore/Aft** and **Port/Stbd** offset point is the reference point for the layback distance. Essentially the lay back distance is the distance between this point and the offset point of the tow vehicle described in the **ROV, Seamole1, ROV REF VEH** section. This can also be viewed as the beginning or 0 point of the tow cable. This offset point is from the towed vehicle's CRP to the tow point.

Depth is an offset from the CRP. It is applied in several different ways:

- 1) If **Use ROV Depth** is set to **Yes** (on the Layback tab) this value is added to the depth from this towed vehicle device and assigned to the vehicle's depth. See Use ROV Depth on the Layback tab above.
- 2) If the Pythagorean solution is selected, this value is added to the vehicle depth and the Tow Point Above Water value to get the vertical portion of the right triangle when computing the layback.
- 3) If the catenary solution is selected, this value is not used in the model.

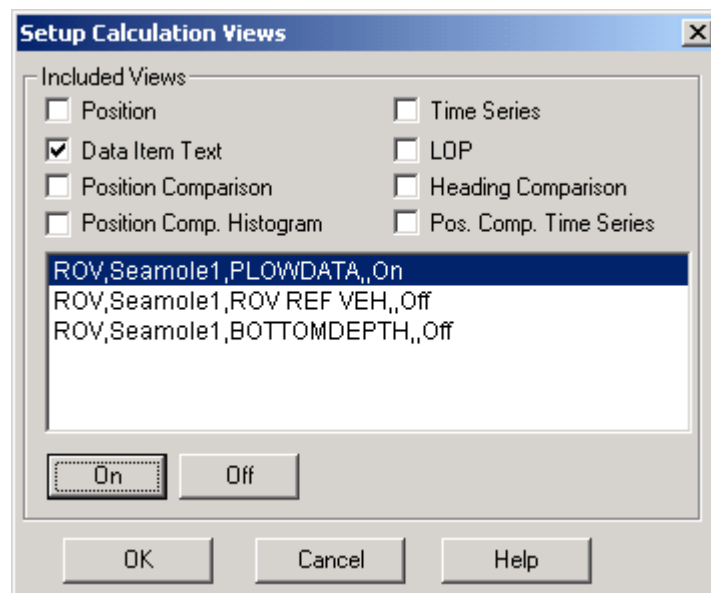
Real-Time Navigation Updates

Most Plow devices have the ability to provide real-time data updates via an umbilical. The Decoded data tab in the I/O Devices window will indicate what data is updated in real-time for each device. You should only select the checkboxes for data output by the device, as leaving these checkboxes selected causes data to be assigned to the vehicle. If the device does not output a particular type of data, 0 will be assigned for each item left selected and this will cause values from other devices to be overwritten.

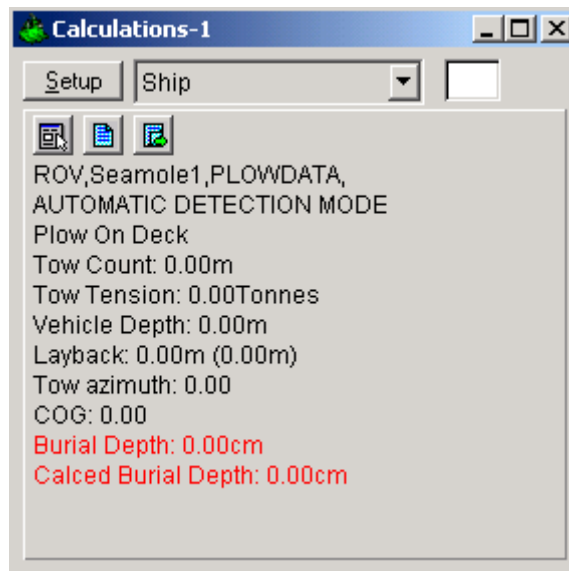
Real-Time Calculations

Calculate Toe Position – this option only applies to the Smart Cutter plow device.

The results of the above configurations are typically viewed in a Calculations window. To display the Calculations window, select View > Calculations from the main menu. Select the appropriate vehicle from the dropdown list and click the Setup button. Select **Data Item Text** and turn the data item **ROV, Seamole1, PLOWDATA** on by highlighting it and clicking the **ON** button as seen below.



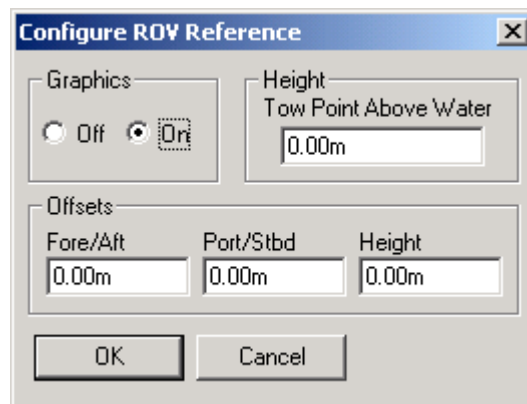
Exiting with OK will display the Calculations window as seen below.



From this window, you can monitor some of the input data as well as the layback calculation. This Calculation window also provides a shortcut to the Configure Plow dialog box by clicking the  button.

Data item: ROV, Seamole1, ROV REF VEH

This data item is attached to the vehicle in WinFrog that has a real-time positioning source (DGPS, etc.), typically the ship. This vehicle with its known position serves as the reference point for determining the Plow's position. Highlight this data item and click the Edit button to open the Configure ROV Reference dialog box seen below.



Graphics:

Select the On radio button to display the device name and a square at the location of the ROV, within the Graphics and Bird's Eye windows.

Tow Point Height:

The height of the tow point above water is added for layback calculations only if a towed vehicle model is used.

Offsets:

The X,Y,Z Offsets are applied from the CRP to the tow point (usually the winch) on the ship. These values are set similar to values that would be applied to any device offset within WinFrog. Note that the Height Offset is not used for operations involving plough vehicles.

Note: It is advised to use the waterline as the vertical CRP reference when sub-sea positioning devices are employed.

Data item: ROV, Seamole1, BOTTOMDEPTH

This data item can be added to the Plow's device list if the water depth data from the plow is deemed to be accurate. Highlight this data item in the vehicle's device list and click the Edit button to open the Configure Sounder dialog box as seen below.

Configure Sounder

Calculation: ☒ Primary ☐ Secondary

Graphics: ☒ Off ☐ On

Apply Tides: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Soundings for Profile

☐ Collect Data

Distance Interval: 25.00m

☐ Purge RAM

Interval Type: ☒ Along Line ☐ Actual Distance

Database Filename: no file

☒ Abort Saving Data

☒ Display Soundings Data in Profile Window

Offsets

Fore/Aft: 0.00m Port/Stbd: 0.00m Depth: 0.00m

Calculation:

Set the type of calculation to Primary or Secondary using the appropriate radio button. WinFrog will only utilize (i.e. display and record) data from a Primary sounder device. If there is more than one Primary sounder attached to a vehicle's device list,

WinFrog will not mean the data (as is done with positional devices), but rather alternate between the devices. Data from a Secondary status sounder will simply be monitored.

Graphics:

Select the On radio button to display a labeled square representing the location of the sounder in the Graphics and/or Bird's Eye windows.

Apply Tides:

If the Yes radio button is selected, WinFrog will apply tidal corrections to the observed water depths. Depths displayed in the Vehicle Text window and recorded in automatic event (i.e. .DAT, .SRC, and .RCV) and type 351 raw files will refer to the datum corrected depths. Note that type 411 raw data records will remain truly raw and will not reflect the tide correction.

The tide information can be supplied by a real time telemetry system or by predicted tide files. Either way, the tide "device" must also be attached to the same vehicle's device list. For more information, refer to documentation on Tide devices.

Soundings for Profile:

This section of the Configure Sounder dialog permits the collection of sounding data to an .mdb database file for display in WinFrog's Profile window. This collection is completely separate from automatic event or raw data collection.

Collect Data

Select this checkbox to enable the collection of data to an .mdb database file.

Interval Type

Select to utilize either Along Line or Actual Distance (i.e. between successive position updates) calculations for data collection intervals. Selecting Along Line requires that you also enable survey line tracking.

Distance Interval

Specify the distance interval at which the data will be collected.

Purge RAM

Sounding data is stored in the RAM memory of the computer. Any data collected which will not be required at later time can be deleted by selecting the Purge RAM checkbox, then clicking the OK button to exit the dialog box.

Database filename

Click the Browse button to define where and to what filename the .mdb file will be written. The file name and location is displayed here.

Abort Saving Data

Select this checkbox to abort saving data to the .mdb file. In other words, to save data to the .mdb file ensure that this box is NOT checked.

Display Soundings Data in Profile Window

Select this checkbox to enable the display of this data in WinFrog's Profile window.

Offsets

This section of the dialog allows for entry of offset values as measured from the vessel's Common Reference Point (CRP). Note that the Fore/Aft and Port/Stbd offsets are used for "cosmetic" visual purposes only: An echo sounder is not a positioning device, and hence its horizontal offsets have no application. If the echo sounder's position is to be recorded correctly, you must create and enable a vehicle Tracking Offset for that specific location. The offsets entered here can simply be used as a means of graphically confirming that the Tracking Offset values have been entered correctly.

The Depth Offset is applied; the entered value will be added to the received sounder data.

Depths displayed in the Vehicle Text window and recorded in automatic event (i.e. .DAT, .SRC, and .RCV) and type 351 raw files will refer to the corrected depths. Note that type 411 raw data records will remain truly raw and will not reflect the depth offset correction.