

## SUPSALV supports search for Malaysian Air Flt #370

4 April 2014

NAVSEA OOC has deployed the Towed Pinger Locator (TPL) onboard Australian Defense Vessel Ocean Shield in support of an international search effort to locate Malaysian Air Flight # 370 which vanished on a flight between Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing on March 8th. Australia's navy ship departed for the search area on 30 March and on 4 April the US Navy search team augmented by SUPSALV's Undersea Operations contractor, Phoenix International, entered the search area and deployed the TPL along the Malaysian Air Flt 370's estimated route. CAPT Mark Matthews, Supervisor of Salvage and Diving, who is heading up the Navy unit has issued a caution for the public to not be optimistic on the TPLs success. He said that we were "deploying the TPL on a best guess at this point and that the search was entirely dependent on luck".



*The Navy's Towed Pinger Locator, positioned for deployment from the deck of ADV Ocean Shield. SUPSALV began the initial search using the TPL on 4 April along Malaysian Air Flt 370's estimated route.*

The TPL is capable of hearing the transponder attached to the Flight Data Recorder or Cockpit Voice Recorder over a distance of about 1 mile. Without further resolution as to where the aircraft went down, the vast southern Indian Ocean will make the search incredibly difficult.



*Phoenix's Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) "Artemis" is lowered into the sea for testing on 1 April. The AUV is supplementing the Navy's TPL in the search for Malaysian Air Flight 370. The AUV is capable of diving a preprogrammed route and searching using side scan sonar device and would be deployed if the TPL picks up a possible signal.*