Our Social Media Outreach with Enhanced Clear Blue Sea Website Spreads Awareness of Ocean Plastic

Enhanced Clear Blue Sea Website: https://www.clearbluesea.org/

Thanks to Rupali Joshi, Sonali Louis, and Kent Prettman for their ongoing work to improve our website!

Getting the Word out via Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. Our Social Media Team of 9 volunteers is posting daily photos, articles, and updates about ocean plastic pollution, what you can do to make a difference, and Clear Blue Sea’s work in addressing the crisis. Thank you to Janine Bryant, Erna Carter, Ken Davis, Sam Gottlieb, Lauren Jakiel, Ashley Madara, Trent Nakamura, Zeina Sindaha, and Kaelah Wilson for your dedication!

Building the First 2 Small-Scale FREDs. Our USD & SDSU Engineering Teams are busy building and testing two independently-designed small-scale FRED Prototypes during their spring semesters, led by Project Manager Zane Allen from PLNU with oversight from USD’s Dr. Gordon Hoople and Clear Blue Sea’s Tim Perry, Chief Engineer.

Thanks to our volunteer engineers: Abdullah Alibrahim, Iyad Alsulaiman, Zane Deck, David Dunn, Xiaolong Fu, Jazmyn Gonzalez, Diego Guardiola, Dane Hollar, Cameron Hopkins, Erin Kendrick, Scott Kolnes, Sydney Platt, Iyad Asuleiman, Elise Riccio, Nathan Rozenberg, and Christiana Salvosa.

Relevant Environmental Compliance Requirements. Our UCSD Environmental Policy Team has been determining which international, federal, state, and local laws and regulations that Clear Blue Sea must comply with when testing and operating FREDs in marine environments. The UN has defined guidelines for preventing plastic waste from entering the ocean; the EPA is responsible for water systems on land and shores; and there are multiple local agencies involved in ocean conservancy. However, there are not specific regulatory requirements for cleanup of marine plastics in the earth’s major oceans. Thank you to Yanzi Wen, Saiwen Zhang, and Kristin Tagasuki for contributing their knowledge and capabilities in environmental policy analysis and educational outreach.

Clear Blue Sea Board of Directors Meeting. Our Board is made up of five members having diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise. This quarter we held our meeting at a brewery in Mira Mesa to discuss our 2019-2020 goals. These include our large-scale FRED Prototype Project, expanding marketing efforts, growing our internship program, and increasing board membership, all in addition to focusing on compliance with nonprofit regulations.

Charitable Grant Finalist. In February, Clear Blue Sea was contacted by Morgan Stanley’s Susan Trishman of their Giving Circle, who notified us that we were among the finalists for their charitable donation of 2019. Susie Baer, our Executive Director, participated in multiple interviews and provided Clear Blue Sea materials and reports to their reviewers. IN LATE MARCH WE WERE NOTIFIED THAT WE WERE THE WINNER OF THEIR 2019 SPOUSES GIVING CIRCLE GRANT FOR $50K. We plan to allocate these very valuable and appreciated funds to procuring a used mid-sized catamaran for retrofitting and leasing warehouse space for our teams to work collaboratively.

Tom Lupfer of Clarity Design Sponsoring 4 USD 2019 Summer Interns for Clear Blue Sea. This will be the 2nd summer that Tom has financed 4 engineering students for Clear Blue Sea Internships. This team will be enhancing the USD small-scale FRED Prototype currently being built and tested this spring. Two additional USD students have volunteered to perform research and analysis of relevant emergent innovations applicable to FRED Prototyping. In the spirit of diversity, this team will be comprised of student engineers from the National Society of Black Engineers, Society of Women Engineers, and Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers.

We appreciate your interest in Clear Blue Sea—the Ocean needs more fans like you!
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