The iSPHERE is an expendable, low cost, bi-directional spherical drifting buoy. The drifter was developed to meet the demanding needs of the offshore oil industry, ocean freight industry and the oceanographic scientific community. The buoy was designed specifically to track and monitor oil spill incidences. The iSPHERE drifter also provides the user with essential real-time sea surface temperature data and GPS positional data.

The robust design of the iSPHERE allows the buoy to be deployed effortlessly from a vessel or an oil platform. The standard operating life of the buoy is approximately 6-12 months.

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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

BUOY DIMENSIONS
• Surface Unit Diameter: 3.40 inches (86.4 mm)
• Mass (in air): 13.15 kg (29 lbs.)

BUOY CONSTRUCTION
• Surface Unit: Injection molded high impact ABS

OPERATION
• Operational Temperature: -2°C to 35°C
• Relative humidity: 0 to 100% marine environment
• Sea state: SS5
• Operating life: Up to 18 months
• Storage life: Up to 36 months
• Storage temperature: -40°C to +40°C (-4°F to 131°F)
• Time reference: UTC

SURVIVAL
• Temperature: -2°C to +60°C (35.6°F to 140°F)
• Sea state: SS7
• Deployment free fall height: 10 m (33 ft) into water

ELECTRONICS
• MetOcean's GEN II Controller
• Navman Jupiter F2 Global Positioning System module
• Iridium 9602 Short Burst Data transceiver

DATA COLLECTION
• As per the Drifting Buoy Cooperative Panel DBCP-2 format (standard), can be customized depending upon customer requirement (optional)

DATA TRANSMISSION
• Bidirectional communication ability allows the end user to select on demand Iridium transmission interval to suit operational requirement.
• Transmissions can be set up at predetermined schedule intervals and/or poll the unit for immediate results.