

PRESS RELEASE

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Sea Machines Appoints Chip Wasson as New CEO

Mr. Wasson joins the company as revenues surge and momentum in the defense market builds.

(BOSTON, USA; November 12, 2024): Sea Machines Robotics, a world leader of marine autonomous technology, today announced new company leadership. Founder Michael Gordon Johnson will now serve as President and Chief Technology Officer, while David “Chip” Wasson has joined as Chief Executive Officer.

Sea Machines has achieved significant success in 2024, posting record sales for the year. This growth is attributed to the proven plug-and-perform capability of the company’s SM300 Autonomous Command and Control system and its expanding traction in the defense sector. “Through Michael’s leadership, the Sea Machines team has relentlessly pursued the mission of safe, secure, and sustainable ocean mobility, building a recognized leader in maritime autonomy. His focus on the technology roadmap and product development going forward will ensure further advances within the unmanned sector,” said incoming CEO Chip Wasson.

Mr. Wasson has an extensive background in defense and national security, from his early career as naval flight officer to investment banker and more recently as an executive at Huntington Ingalls leading their Strategy and Corporate Development Group. As an advocate for emerging defense technologies and trusted advisor to maritime companies and investors, he aligns with Sea Machines' mission to provide dual-use products that enable enhanced operational capabilities for defense markets.

“Our government customers are looking for the means to augment and complement their conventional manned fleet operations with emerging, dual-use technologies that enable asymmetric advantage in national security markets and leverage productivity developed in the commercial markets. This is the right time for Chip to step aboard, take the helm, and duly navigate our company and its products through the complexities of serving the defense market successfully.” said Founder Michael Johnson. “Chip understands the defense sector from multiple perspectives, from living it as a naval officer to serving it both in the capacity of a large defense contractor and a small business. His leadership, knowledge and relationships will unlock potential for Sea Machines and our customers.”

About Sea Machines Robotics

Based in the bustling tech hub of Boston and with a global presence, Sea Machines Robotics, Inc. is a pioneer in autonomous command and control and advanced perception systems for the marine industry. Founded in 2017, the company builds autonomous vessel software and systems, which increases the safety, efficiency, and performance of ships, workboats, and commercial passenger vessels. Learn more about Sea Machines at www.sea-machines.com.

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[Image: Michael Gordon Johnson, David ‘Chip’ Wasson, and SELKIE.]

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