

From: [Maxwell Brodie](#)
To: [CityCouncil-List](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Jennifer Ott](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support for City Council Meeting Agenda Item 2-A
Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 3:54:02 PM
Attachments: [Rain support letter for DOER Marine.pdf](#)

Dear Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft and Alameda City Council,

I am writing to express Rain's support for Item 2-A on today's city council meeting agenda relating to a license for DOER Marine Operations to occupy Building 41 at Alameda Point.

DOER has been a strong supporter of the Alameda community and played an integral role in Rain's growth to date. My full recommendation and accompanying rationale is attached.

Wishing everyone a productive evening,
Max

--

Maxwell Brodie
CEO
[Rain.aero](#)



Rain Industries Inc
2175 Monarch St. Alameda, CA 94501
corporate@rain.aero
<http://rain.aero>

Rain

April 16, 2024

To the Council of the City of Alameda,

I am writing to express Rain's strong support for DOER Marine and their request to extend their license. Over the course of our partnership, DOER has consistently demonstrated competence and dedication to advancing our shared goals.

Our collaboration with DOER began when one of their interns introduced us to their capabilities. Since then, DOER has consistently provided us with exceptional hands-on technical and engineering services. Their expertise has been crucial in various aspects of our operations, including research and development of autonomous helicopters for proof of concept and field testing purposes, prototyping parts, and addressing challenges with flight test logistics.

Moreover, DOER has actively engaged with the community by co-hosting student summits and workshops with Rain, fostering the next generation of innovators and leaders. Their dedication to education and collaboration has had a lasting impact on our community.

DOER's leadership played a crucial role in helping Rain find an ideal location for our headquarters which resulted in Rain becoming a member of the climate technology community at Alameda Point. We are proud to call Alameda home and would not be here today without DOER's role in the community.

It is also worth noting that both our organizations have been recognized for contributions to the East Bay region. We are honored to have recently received the "East Bay EDA Awards," an accolade that DOER was honored with in the past. This shared recognition underscores the mutual commitment we share to excellence and innovation. We were excited to hear reports of their recent successful tests of a novel five-passenger submersible, built and tested right here at Alameda point, and expect to see expanded development and production of these vehicles.

DOER Marine's continued presence in Alameda and partnership are essential to our success and we look forward to the opportunity to further collaborate and innovate together.

Sincerely,



Maxwell Brodie
Chief Executive Officer

From: [Liz Taylor](#)
To: [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Malia Vella](#)
Cc: [Alesia Strauch](#); [Abby Thorne-Lyman](#); [Jennifer Ott](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: April 16 council meeting agenda item 2024-3916 letters of support
Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 12:59:28 PM
Attachments: [Rain DOER Support letter.pdf](#)
[DOER support letter.pdf](#)

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and members of the City Council

I've received two additional letters of support which I've attached here. One from Rain Aero and one from St. Joe's Vice Principal.

Thank you for your consideration

Best regards,

Liz Taylor
President
DOER Marine
650 W Tower Ave
Alameda CA 94501
Direct: 209-482-1020

From: Liz Taylor
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 5:23 PM
To: 'MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov' <MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov>; 'TDaysog@alamedaca.gov' <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>; 'tjensen@alamedaca.gov' <tjensen@alamedaca.gov>; 'tspencer@alamedaca.gov' <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>; 'MVella@alamedaca.gov' <MVella@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: 'astrauch@alamedaca.gov' <astrauch@alamedaca.gov>; 'athornelyman@alamedaca.gov' <athornelyman@alamedaca.gov>; 'jott@alamedaca.gov' <jott@alamedaca.gov>; 'CLERK@alamedaca.gov' <CLERK@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: April 16 council meeting agenda item 2024-3916 letters of support

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and members of the City Council

I've received two letters of support ahead of the closed session meeting tomorrow evening. One is from the former CEO of Fastback Networks and the other is from the CEO/Founder of Tiburon Subsea. Both programs cited are examples of what DOER has been doing for some decades here in Alameda – largely out of the spotlight but striving to make an enduring difference.

Thank you again for your consideration

Best regards,

Liz Taylor
President
DOER Marine

650 W Tower Ave
Alameda CA 94501
Mobile: 209-482-1020

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and City Council members Daysog, Jensen, Spencer, and Vella,

I am writing to express my sincere support and admiration for DOER Marine, a truly invaluable business with international acclaim. Over the years, DOER Marine has not only excelled in their field but has also been a steadfast supporter of education and community engagement, particularly in our local Alameda community.

One of the most remarkable aspects of DOER Marine's commitment to education is their dedication to fostering the next generation of scientists, engineers, and environmental stewards. Through high school internships, career days, middle school science fair judging, and hosting field trips to their site, DOER Marine has provided countless opportunities for students to explore the intersection of arts and science, sparking their curiosity and passion for exploration.

Liz and Ian's efforts to help students connect arts and science, whether through classroom presentations or participation in school events, have been invaluable in inspiring creativity and interdisciplinary thinking among our students. By supporting student clubs like our STEAM Society, DOER Marine has played a pivotal role in nurturing the talents and interests of young minds, empowering them to become innovators and problem solvers.

Furthermore, I deeply appreciate DOER Marine's commitment to environmental stewardship. By instilling in students a sense of responsibility towards the environment and promoting sustainable practices, they are shaping future leaders who will strive to protect and preserve our planet for generations to come.

In addition to their remarkable contributions to education and environmental advocacy, the team at DOER Marine are genuinely caring individuals who are deeply invested in our community. Their passion for making a positive difference in Alameda and beyond is evident in everything they do, and their unwavering dedication to their work is truly commendable.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support DOER Marine and the invaluable work they do. They are a unique asset to our island city on the Bay. Their dedication to education, environmental stewardship, and community engagement makes them an exemplary role model for businesses everywhere. I am grateful for their continued support and partnership, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact they will continue to have with a home in Alameda that helps to place us on the world map as a city of innovation and importance.

Sincerely,

Andy McKee (He/Him/His)

Vice Principal

Saint Joseph Notre Dame HS

1011 Chestnut St.

Alameda, CA 94501

510-995-9459

Rain Industries Inc
2175 Monarch St. Alameda, CA 94501
corporate@rain.aero
<http://rain.aero>

Rain

April 16, 2024

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DOER Marine's continued presence in Alameda and partnership are essential to our success and we look forward to the opportunity to further collaborate and innovate together.

Sincerely,



Maxwell Brodie
Chief Executive Officer

From: [Liz Taylor](#)
To: [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Malia Vella](#)
Cc: [Alesia Strauch](#); [Abby Thorne-Lyman](#); [Jennifer Ott](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] April 16 council meeting agenda item 2024-3916 letters of support
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 5:23:53 PM
Attachments: [Letter to Support DOER.PDF](#)
[OPUSLINC DOER Letter of Support 04142024.pdf](#)

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and members of the City Council

I've received two letters of support ahead of the closed session meeting tomorrow evening. One is from the former CEO of Fastback Networks and the other is from the CEO/Founder of Tiburon Subsea. Both programs cited are examples of what DOER has been doing for some decades here in Alameda – largely out of the spotlight but striving to make an enduring difference. Thank you again for your consideration

Best regards,

Liz Taylor
President
DOER Marine
650 W Tower Ave
Alameda CA 94501
Mobile: 209-482-1020

April 15, 2024

Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft and
Members of the Alameda City Council
Alameda City Hall
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

RE: Letter of Support for Deep Ocean Exploration & Research (DOER)

Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members:

I am writing to express my strong, unwavering support for Deep Ocean Exploration and Research (DOER), its employees, partners, and clients. I highly recommend that you extend DOER's license to conduct business in the city, and that you work with them to find a mutually beneficial outcome for the future of the building they currently occupy at 650 West Tower Avenue.

During my time as CEO of Fastback Networks, we developed a wide-ranging and substantive partnership with DOER supporting our product development and manufacturing activities. Fastback Networks is a provider of cutting-edge communication infrastructure technology to North American telecommunication operators, like T-Mobile. While a partnership between an ocean research firm and a telecom products company may seem unlikely, it was the capabilities, skills, and experience of the DOER team that brought us together.

We began working DOER when we ran into unexplained problems with our manufacturing line at a local tier one contract manufacturer. The contract manufacturer was unable to provide the specific specialized testing and engineering analysis that we required. We were introduced to DOER for this specialized set of metallurgical and electrical tests. DOER not only delivered the specific test results and engineering analysis, but also directly aided my team in getting our manufacturing line up and running. Over time, our partnership grew out of the trust and mutual respect that existed between our teams.

During the initial days of the COVID pandemic, our contract manufacturer was shut down for an extended period, and then had trouble returning to volume production once the shut-down was lifted. Because Fastback products were deemed vital to the on-going operation of the large US telecom networks, which supported emergency personnel and first responders, we operated under emergency authorization from the Department of Homeland Security. DOER was instrumental in our efforts to produce and distribute our equipment for emergency use. Starting in early 2021, we set up an additional production line at DOER to better support the customers who relied on our products.

The above information provides a brief overview of the partnership between DOER and Fastback. There were other important aspects, such as the DOER team's support for local high school programs, and the employment of local students for manufacturing and testing of Fastback products. DOER is also located in a facility with the space and flexibility to undertake all the various tasks that we requested. And our partnership does not even touch on the core business of DOER, in an industry and ecosystem where they are the unquestioned leader in technology that is critical to research and security.

Most importantly, DOER is unique, which is saying a tremendous amount in the Bay Area and Silicon Valley. The technology and products that DOER brings to their core business in deep ocean submersibles are unequalled, while the capabilities and skills of the team are unmatched, even in this highest of high-tech environments.

The City of Alameda should be looking for ways to support and nurture DOER, using the company as a beacon for other high-tech firms that consider locating in the city.

While I am no longer with Fastback Networks, I would be happy to provide additional commentary regarding my experiences with DOER. Please feel free to contact me should you need more information.

Sincerely,

Christian Thelander
Co-Founder & CEO - OPUSLINC LLC
Former CEO of Fastback Networks
chris@opuslinc.com





City Council of Alameda
Alameda City Hall
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

Dear Mayor Marilyn Ashcraft and Members of the City Council,

I am writing to you on behalf of Tiburon Subsea to express our strong support for DOER Marine's continued occupancy of their current warehouse facility in Alameda. As you consider the license extension necessary for DOER to remain at this location, it is crucial to recognize the significant, ongoing collaborations and future business that hinge on their ability to maintain their operations there.

For decades, Tiburon Subsea has enjoyed a robust partnership with DOER Marine. This relationship has been instrumental in advancing our respective technological capabilities and in supporting significant maritime and naval projects. Most notably, DOER is integral to our ongoing Code 33 Research and Development (R&D) initiatives with the U.S. Navy. The work being done is critical for the development of advanced autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs), which represent the future of undersea exploration and defense.

Furthermore, DOER's current facility is essential for the planned production and expansion of our AUV programs. The strategic location and capabilities of the warehouse make it uniquely suited to meet the demands of these complex projects. Disruption in the availability of this space would pose significant setbacks to our operations and the technological advancements associated with them.

In addition to our Navy-related projects, DOER provides indispensable technical support for the Lost 52 Project, an initiative dedicated to locating and documenting sunken U.S. submarines lost during World War II. This project not only serves historical and educational purposes but also underscores our commitment to advancing undersea technology and knowledge.

The ability for DOER to continue operating out of their Alameda facility is crucial for the sustained success and advancement of these important projects. As such, we respectfully urge the City Council to favorably consider the license extension for DOER Marine. This will not only support our longstanding partnership but also contribute significantly to the local economy through job retention and the creation of new employment opportunities as we expand our initiatives.

Thank you for considering this matter. We are hopeful for a positive resolution that will allow us to continue our valuable work in Alameda, contributing to the city's reputation as a center of maritime and technological innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Taylor".

Tim Taylor
CEO / Founder
Tiburon Subsea
The Lost 52 Project
ttaylor@tiburonsubsea.com

CC; Tony Daysog, Tracy Jensen, Trish Spencer, Malia Vella, City Clerk, Alesia Strauch, Abby Thorne-Lyman, Jennifer Ott, Liz Taylor

From: [Liz Taylor](#)
To: [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Malia Vella](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Alesia Strauch](#); [Abby Thorne-Lyman](#); [Jennifer Ott](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] April 16 council meeting agenda item 2024-3916
Date: Friday, April 12, 2024 1:23:48 PM
Attachments: [DOER City Council 2024_04_12.pdf](#)

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and esteemed council members

Thank you for taking under consideration the extension of DOER's license to continue operations in Building 41 at the 16 April council meeting.

Please find attached an overview slide deck describing a bit of DOER's history, works and larger vision for an enduring future in Alameda.

For any of you who have not had the opportunity, the invitation to visit DOER for a firsthand look at our operations stands. We expect to have a five passenger submersible here until month end and will be receiving personnel spheres for the next two systems we currently have under build in the coming weeks.

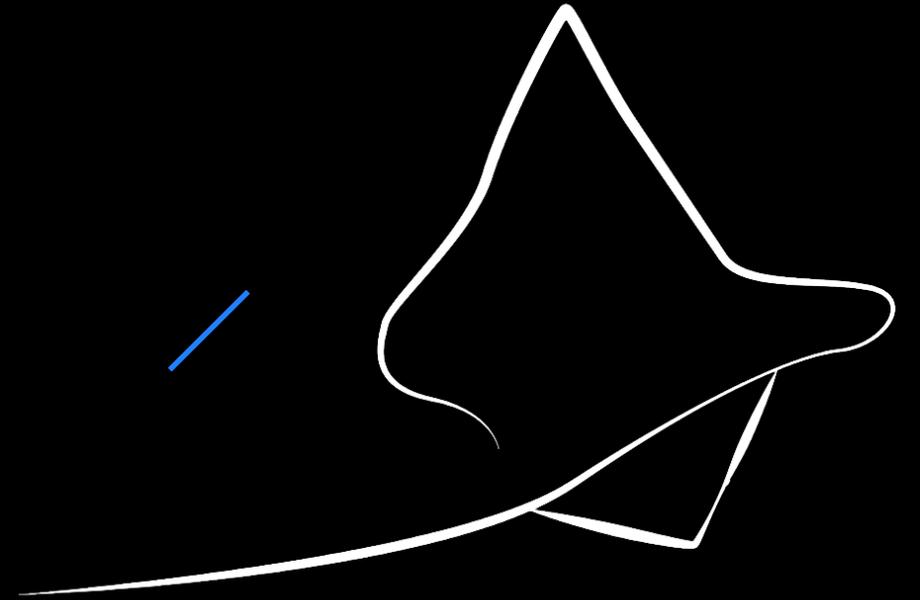
With best regards,

Liz Taylor
President
DOER Marine
650 W Tower Ave
Alameda CA 94501
Direct: 209-482-1020
Office: 510-530-9388

DOER Marine

City Council

April 2024





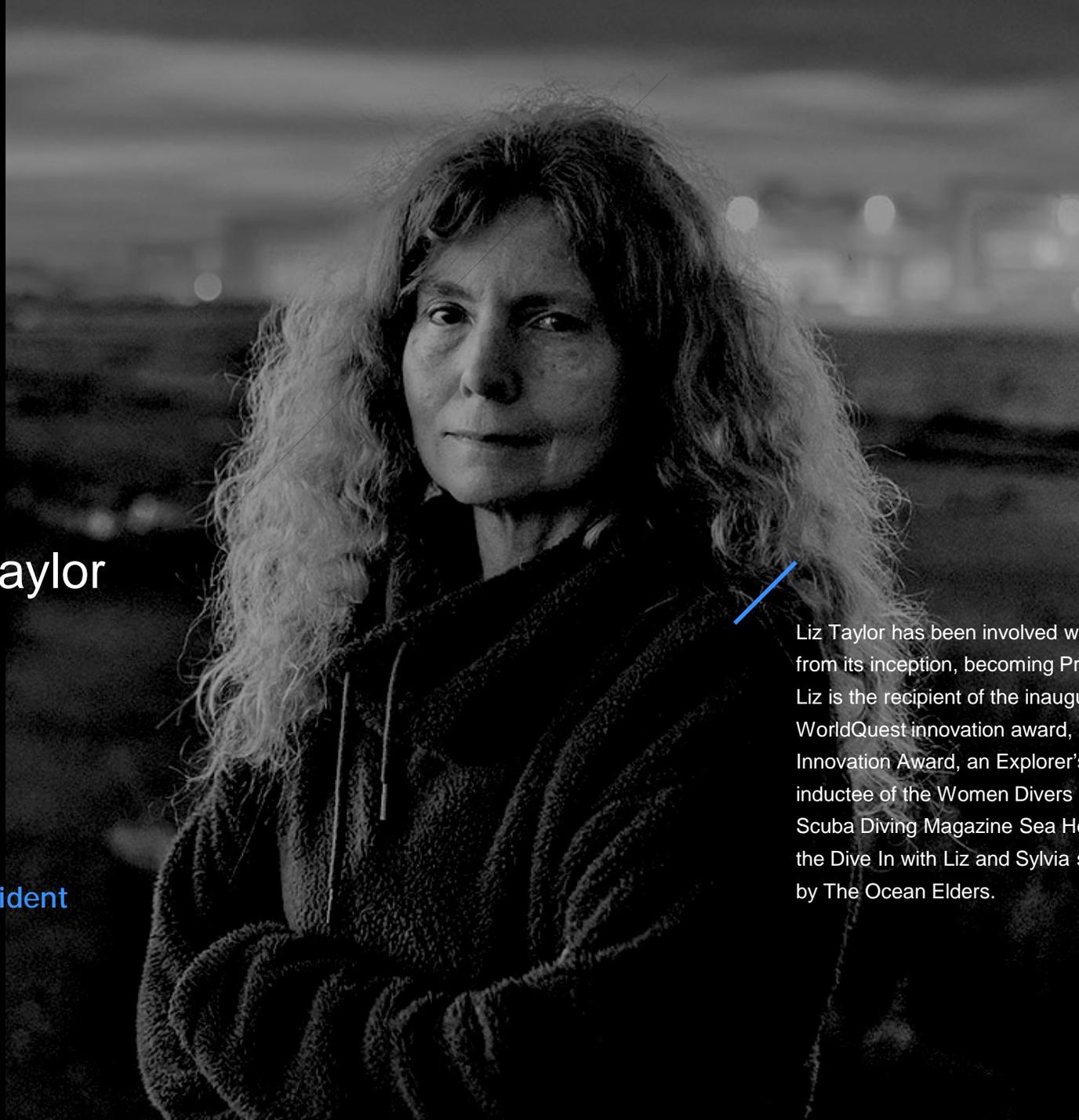
DOER Marine

About Our Company

DOER Marine has been in continuous service in Alameda as a Woman founded and led business since 1992. We are extremely proud of our *For Benefit* mission and Alameda roots

Liz Taylor

CEO & President



Liz Taylor has been involved with DOER Marine from its inception, becoming President in 1994. Liz is the recipient of the inaugural Wings WorldQuest innovation award, an East Bay Innovation Award, an Explorer's Club Fellow, an inductee of the Women Divers Hall of Fame, a Scuba Diving Magazine Sea Hero, and co-hosts the Dive In with Liz and Sylvia series produced by The Ocean Elders.

Dr. Earle

Founder of DOER Marine

We are DOERs

Dr. Sylvia Earle is a renowned marine biologist, oceanographer, explorer, author, and lecturer, hailed as a pioneer in the field of ocean science. Born in 1935, Earle has dedicated her life to the exploration and conservation of the world's oceans. Her groundbreaking research and passionate advocacy have earned her numerous awards and the nickname "Her Deepness." Earle was the first female chief scientist of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and has led more than 100 underwater expeditions worldwide.

What

Drives us to do our work?



Sustainable Development Goals

SDGs are at the heart of everything that DOER Marine does. Our guiding light is SDG 14, which focuses on Life Below Water. However, we actively engage in ten additional key areas of the UN Sustainability Development Goals while supporting all 17 objectives.



Our Ask

DOER Marine

Wants to continue being a part of the Alameda Community. As such, we need a license extension for the projects that we currently have in progress. Typical project turnover is 18-24 months.

In addition to contributing to Alameda Point's growing business sector, we want to further create other opportunities for companies to make Alameda their home in partnership with DOER Marine.





Our Vision for DOER Marine

We ideally want to purchase Building 41 at Alameda Point and create:



Blue Green Incubator

Establish phase 1 to provide support to blue/green start ups, special projects, and other founders or entrepreneurs



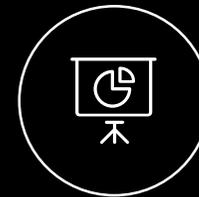
Professional Services

Our machine shop offers material testing, design, and manufacturing services businesses can leverage to get new products quickly to market



Bring Investment

Our continued presence will help bring Internships, job creation, and most importantly, investment to the area



Support for Businesses

We envision providing support, manufacturing and development space for small businesses to help them grow

Working with Avison Young

How they're contributing to our vision

It's crucial that we work with an experienced Real Estate firm to not only create the proper proposal for our vision of Building 41, but also to ensure that we stay true to the character of Alameda Point while also addressing the needs of our incubation companies and sustainability goals.

Comprehensive Services & Shared Values



ESG and wellness

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors are central to how we consult with our clients, manage our workplace practices, and our philanthropy. For the last decade Avison Young has supported local communities through our annual Day of Giving. Our very own NorCal offices have volunteered at Habitat for Humanity, SF Food Bank, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Oakland Lake Merritt, and San Mateo County Parks.



7,640
Total Day of Giving
volunteer hours



+80
Partnership with local
charities



10 years
A decade of ongoing annual
contributions



DOER Provides Support To

Trade, Government, and Professional Organizations we support include:

Alameda Fire Department Dive & Water Rescue Team, Alameda County Sheriff's Dive & Recovery Team, Commercial Diving Companies, US Navy, NOAA, and USCG.

Not for Profits include:

Mission Blue, Bay Area Science Festival, Ocean Elders, Blue Frontiers, Aquarium of the Bay, California Academy of Sciences, Alameda CASA, Deep Hope, Tetiaroa Society, Parley for the Ocean, and the Wild Oyster Project.





Submersibles

Are complex vehicles that require substantial time to design, manufacture and test. These efforts create and support skilled jobs in Alameda

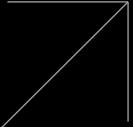




Submersibles

Also help support the local working water front. We not only do the bulk of the manufacturing in Alameda, but also ensure that our vehicles pass the majority of their life support and stability tests in local waters.





A Global Presence

Our products span the world and have helped multiple people and researchers reach milestones in Deep Sea Exploration and Research. Our manipulator arms are used across different platforms from University ROVs to the deepest point in the ocean with Jim Cameron's DeepSea Challenger

Some of Our Projects





Public Facing Store

Aside from the work that we do with our underwater vehicles, we also help educate the public about the importance of our underwater ecosystems through the Deep Ocean Explore Store. We've helped mint divers of all levels who have begun to deeply care about the ocean and are also participating on many of the excursions that promote sustainable ocean recreation.



Emphasis on Diving & Conservation

By promoting events with a touch of conservation, we've educated the public on fish identification, ocean clean ups, and international travel. We believe that by educating people about what we do and the perils facing the oceans we can help change public behaviors and attitudes towards one of humanity's most valuable resources.



Education & Outreach

We go beyond just teaching the general public. We also believe that by investing in the leaders of tomorrow, we'll be able to effect change for the better of the environment and the oceans. If we can help young people to remain curious; to explore the intersections of art, science, and engineering through ocean exploration and conservation, then we've done our job.



INTERNS IN ALAMEDA

We've mentored interns who are interested in marine biology, fabrication, and ocean conservation



INTERNS AT SEA

Introducing young women and men to exploration through their participation in ocean missions has helped create many scientists



CONSULTING

We're also consultants, helping projects from aqua-culture to carbon sequestration.



Why We LOVE Alameda

Contributing to the local community beyond our business is another aspect that motivates us. We've spearheaded collaborations with Alameda CASA and the Romberg Center to create the Mission Blue SF Bay HOPE SPOT for an enduring future of the San Francisco Bay.



Community Investment

The list of collaborators we've partnered with is extensive and includes: Power Engineering, Speed Pro Alameda, Almanac Brewing, Bay Ship & Yacht, Rain, Hadal, Fastback Networks, Fix Auto, and many more. Our educational partners also include many schools across the Bay Area.

Full List of Collaborators and Partners

Local Business Collaborations

- Power Engineering – Ocean Cleanup, submersible testing, diver support
- Speed Pro Alameda – signage & wraps
- Almanac – Event space for public talks
- Svendsens- marine hardware
- Bay Ship & Yacht – fabrication, assistance with NOAA and eco tourism ships
- Rain – engineering support & fabrication
- Hadal – engineering support and fabrication
- Fastback Networks – engineering support, fabrication, assembly, & testing
- Fix Auto – custom paint for ROVs & Submersibles

Local School Support

- Alameda Aztechs robotics club
- AUSD interns, job fairs, and field trips
- OUSD career day field trips

- SJND interns, career days, science fair, robotics club
- College of Alameda and Laney
- Cal Berkeley – R&D

Trade, Government, and Professional Support

- Alameda Fire Department dive and water rescue team
- Alameda County Sheriff's dive and recovery team
- Commercial Diving companies
- Large engineering firms
- US Navy
- NOAA
- USCG

Non Profit Support

- Mission Blue
- Bay Area Science Festival

- Ocean Elders
- Blue Frontiers
- Aquarium of the Bay
- California Academy of Sciences
- Alameda CASA – taxiway clean up
- Deep Hope
- Bay Area Blue Drinks/events
- Wild Oyster Project
- Parley for the Ocean

An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline. The top half of the image shows dark, jagged rock formations. Below the rocks, white-capped waves are crashing against the shore, creating a stark contrast with the deep blue-green water. The bottom half of the image is dominated by the textured surface of the ocean, showing ripples and small waves.

THANK YOU

We love being a part of this fantastic community. Please let us know if there are any questions we can help answer!