COASTAL DATA MONITORING, COLUMBIA RIVER, OR

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Portland District, enlisted Evans-Hamilton, Inc. (EHI), to support the Corps in monitoring short- and long-term waves and sediment movement in the vicinity of the south side of the mouth of the Columbia River. The Portland District supplied all equipment, including the mooring tripod, with the exception of expendable items such as instrument batteries, wire rope, and buoys. The Corps emphasized that retrieval of instruments was key to the successful execution of the work.

SCOPE AND APPROACH

Upon delivery of all the equipment, EHI personnel made a thorough inspection of all instrumentation, including the tripod mount. Because the client stressed retrieval of all instrumentation from the beginning, EHI advised the client not to use the mount they had provided. From past experience in the proposed deployment area, EHI knew the mount provided would jeopardize retrieval efforts. EHI proposed a different mount system with a proven history of data return for the Columbia River mouth. In addition, predeployment tests of the Sontek Ocean Probe proved the meter was not working properly. EHI suggested that the client replace the unit prior to deployment.

Oceanographic Tripod Instrumentation With ADCP and Acoustic Release.

RESULTS

The mooring package was successfully retrieved, all instrumentation downloaded, and the data processed within the client's schedule and budget. Because of the success of the deployment and EHI personnel's interaction and intervention, the Portland District has expressed full confidence in EHI's ability to successfully carry out field efforts and has since requested EHI's involvement in additional scopes of work.