

How Norce Offshore Reduced Crew Fatigue and Improved Clarity with Sensear

Client: Norce Offshore
Industry: Transportation

Overview

Even in designated “quiet zones,” marine crews often face continuous low-level noise that wears down focus, performance, and health. Onboard the Nor Australis, Norce Offshore’s engineers quickly realized that the control room’s persistent hum wasn’t just annoying—it was exhausting and made communication difficult.



That’s when Sensear stepped in, offering **high-noise communication solutions** that reduced fatigue, improved clarity, and allowed engineers to maintain PPE while staying connected throughout the vessel.

The Challenge

During the maiden voyage of the Nor Australis—a DPS2 vessel with diving and ROV capabilities—engineers discovered that the adjacent control room, though considered safe, still clocked in at ~80 dB(A).

- **Persistent Noise Exposure:** Constant sound created fatigue, frustration, and communication barriers.
- **No True Quiet Space:** Even in low-noise zones, engineers experienced stress from uninterrupted noise during long shifts.
- **Communication Breakdown:** Two-way radio conversations and face-to-face instructions were strained or unclear.
- **Unsafe Workarounds:** Engineers were tempted to remove hearing protection to hear more clearly—putting safety at risk.

As offshore engineering vessels became more advanced and operations stretched across longer shifts, Norce Offshore needed a reliable solution to reduce fatigue, improve communication, and protect crews working near constant engine noise.



The Solution

Sensear provided SM1 and SP1 headsets equipped with SENS® Technology to reduce internal headset noise to under 70 dB(A)—even when ambient levels hovered at 80+ dB(A). Sensear's 12 dB(A) of additional suppression stood apart from other brands that offered no support below 82 dB(A), making it the ideal choice for sustained, lower-level noise exposure.

What Made the Difference:

- **Full Situational Awareness** while using Two-way radios or Bluetooth® devices
- **Clear Face-To-Face Conversation** without removing PPE
- **FM Short-Range Communication**—ideal for 1:1 comms within 50 meters
- **Rugged, Over-Ear Design** built for harsh field conditions
- **Future-Ready** planning for IS headset deployment in hazardous zones

Crew members now communicate clearly—even in 100 dB(A) zones—while remaining fully protected and alert throughout long shifts.

The Results

The Sensear deployment had a near-immediate impact:

- **Reduced Fatigue:** Lower internal noise improved focus and comfort.
- **Clear Communication:** Engineers stayed in touch over radio without removing PPE.
- **Improved Morale:** Crews reported less frustration and more confidence during operations
- **Wider Adoption:** Norce expanded use of Sensear headsets to additional vessels, including SM1 Ultra units for full engine room use

Looking Ahead

As offshore engineering and marine operations grow more complex and noise-exposed, Sensear's high-noise communication headsets are becoming essential onboard. From ROV control rooms to engine decks, crews now work with greater clarity, protection, and confidence.

Conclusion

Whether maintaining ROVs, navigating control rooms, or operating within 100 dB(A) zones—

Sensear makes it possible.

Sensear helps marine crews work smarter, safer, and longer—without noise dragging them down.

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