



**PRESS RELEASE - 06/18/2021**

**ABYSSA announces its second fundraising and the creation of ABYSSA Polynesia.**

**ABYSSA SAS**, a French company for Deep Sea exploration, created in Bayonne in January 2019, announces two decisions of its Strategic Committee of June 17, 2021: (1) its second fundraising from July and (2) the creation of its new subsidiary **ABYSSA Polynesia** based in Tahiti.

After contributing more than 1 Million Euros in early 2020, the shareholders decided to open the capital for new fundraising up to a maximum of 5 Million Euros. *"To support the progress of the company, which will accelerate over the next 12 months, it seemed strategic to us to strengthen ABYSSA's equity,"* said **Mr. Jérôme Royer**, representing historical private investors.

This development will occur next summer by the creation of the **ABYSSA Polynesia** subsidiary, which has been planned for several months at a crucial period for the development of the company in the Pacific Region. *"It is for us a need to have a strong local presence in the regional context with the capacity to intervene in the exploration of submarine heritages and their environmental sensitivities. There is so little scientific knowledge in the great depths that the acquisition of knowledge is urgent"* says **Michel Colinet**, Associate Director, responsible for strategies and business development. Michel knows about the local and regional context since he has lived in Polynesia for more than 5 years and has been working in the area for about fifteen years.

It is in this context that a study was entrusted in June 2019 to ABYSSA in response to the wish of French Polynesia to inventory its submarine geological heritage.

Thus, after the creation of **ABYSSA NOUVELLE-CALEDONIE** at the end of 2020, ABYSSA is strengthening its presence and development capabilities in the Pacific and is planning a first exploration survey in the Pacific Ocean by mid-2022 with an Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) able to dive down to 6,000m.

It is also an opportunity for **Jean-Marc Sornin**, President of ABYSSA, to recall the ethics of the company: *"If we address overseas territories or small island states, the stake of these explorations is the inventory of their underwater heritage. Whether it is to protect/ sanctuarize forms of marine parks or to make the decision to exploit certain biological or mineral resources, it is necessary to have a thorough knowledge of them: without this, no informed decision and consideration of environmental sensitivities."*

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