

## Celebrate



*Come December, it is that time to sit back and spend time with your family and friends, enjoy some good food and drink. Don't think about all the work that you know is already out there, eagerly anticipating your return. Which one is the lesser of two evils is for you to decide of course. What I'm however eagerly anticipating round this particular time of year is the announcement of the winners of the Ig Noble Prizes.*

*This year as stated by the organisers – the magazine Annals of Improbable Research – it was the twenty-first 1st Annual Ig Nobel Prize ceremony. As stated on their website [www.improbable.com/ig](http://www.improbable.com/ig): “The Ig Nobel Prizes honour achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think. The prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honour the imaginative – and spur people's interest in science, medicine, and technology.”*

*To me, there are some really strong laureates this year. The winners of the Chemistry Prize for instance determined the ideal density of airborne wasabi to awaken sleeping people in case of a fire or other emergency, and for applying this knowledge to invent the wasabi alarm. Look for US patent application 2010/0308995. Funny as it may seem – just think of people with a hearing impairment.*

*Another 2011 favourite of mine is John Perry of Stanford University, USA, who won this year's Literature Prize for his Theory of Structured Procrastination. According to this theory “in order to be a high achiever, always work on something important, using it as a way to avoid doing something that's even more important”. For the full body of work – have a look at [www.structuredprocrastination.com](http://www.structuredprocrastination.com). And realise that “the procrastinator can be motivated to do difficult, timely and important tasks, as long as these tasks are a way of not doing something more important” and “structured procrastination means shaping the structure of the tasks one has to do in a way that exploits this fact”.*

*I now know the lesser of my evils and will test this theory to improve our delivery to you – our readers. From all of us at Yellow & Finch Publishers, a joyous festive season for you and your loved ones and all the best for the year to come, in your professional as well as your private life.*

*Robin Zander*

*Editor-in-chief*

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Front cover: IHC Hydrohammer is actively involved in noise reducing methods for offshore piling, having spent the last few years on the careful development of the Noise Mitigation System (NMS) for the offshore industry. An independent test took place this August in the Baltic Sea. More on page 22. Photo courtesy of NoordzeeWind.

Background picture contents page: With more than 60,000 transfers completed worldwide, for oil and gas as well as wind energy clients, and with systems number 8, 9, and 10 being developed Ampelmann continues to build on its success. More on their current status and future plans on page 32.