

more had it not been for the rules.

Irish services sector rebounds

The latest figures on the performance of Irish services and manufacturing industries show that while manufacturing declined in the past month, the services sector bounced back. November's Services Business Activity Index jumped from 50.6 to 53.7, returning to a level not seen since September, and the Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell from 50.7 to 49.7, back into decline after a temporary boost last month. October's upswing in manufacturing outlook was probably due to stock-building by nervous suppliers in advance of the since-abandoned October 31 Brexit deadline.

Donohoe warns of corporation tax fall-off

Paschal Donohoe warned that there was a "clear and present danger" of a fall-off in Ireland's record corporation tax receipts, and that it was likely to begin after next year. The finance minister outlined new goals aimed at guarding against the "increasingly inevitable" drop-off in corporation tax revenue over the coming years. These include achieving budgetary surpluses in successive years, as well as the setting of stricter debt targets.

sea structures and monitor the environment.

XOcean has USVs in operation in Britain, Azerbaijan, Trinidad and Canada, and plans to build an additional 22 over the next 12 months and to recruit up to 140 people.

The company provides data collection services to surveyors, companies and agencies. Clients include BP, Equinor, PX Group and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency in Britain.

Smart glasses start-up closes €600k round

■ UtilityAR has closed a €600,000 seed round led by Business Venture Partners Investments and members of the Halo Business Angels Network.

The tech start-up builds augmented reality smart glasses for industry and utility workers. Using 3D graphics, these glasses allow the wearer to view graphics overlaid on real-world objects.

UtilityAR is run by co-founders Patrick Liddy, Séadna Smallwood and Aidan McDonnell. The company raised €500,000 last year. Clients include Gas Networks Ireland and Gilead Sciences.