

Thomas J. Gorgas, Ph.D.

Geoscientist | Geotechnical Consultant | Social Entrepreneur

Auenstraße 9, 85737 Ismaning, Germany

☎ +49 (0)157 5223 9397 | ✉ thomas.gorgas@gmail.com

🌐 www.geophysics-pronature.eu



About Me

With over 25 years of international experience across academia, industry, and entrepreneurship, I bridge the worlds of science and practice. My career has carried me from the seafloors of the world oceans to deep boreholes in terrestrial Europe, from high-level research institutes to founding my own company. I specialize in **Geo-NMR (magnetic resonance methods)**, geophysical surveys, data integration, and GIS-based site evaluation — always with a strong focus on **sustainability and climate protection**.

What drives me is the belief that **geoscience can serve both nature and society**. Along the way, I've mentored young students & scientists, collaborated with global teams, and turned complex data into meaningful solutions for energy, environment, and communities.

Education & Training

- **Ph.D. (Dr. rer. nat.) in Geology & Geophysics**, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (1996–2001)
 - **Diploma in Geophysics**, University of Kiel (CAU-Kiel, 1995)
 - **DAAD Scholar**, Hawaii Institute of Geophysics (HIGP), UH Mānoa (UH-M, 1993)
 - **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI, 2001–2003), UH-M
 - **Further Certifications (2022)**: Environmental Protection Officer (TÜV-Süd), GIS Spatial Analyst (ESRI), Geo-NMR Boot Camp (LIAG Hannover & Vista-Clara Inc.)
-

Professional Journey

Founder & Managing Director – *Geophysics ProNature UG*, Ismaning (since 2021)

Applying geophysical methods for climate and environmental protection. Focus on Geo-NMR and GIS, with collaborations in Germany, across the U.S., and in Peru (2023).

Thomas J. Gorgas, Ph.D.

Geoscientist, mentor, and entrepreneur — committed to connecting science with society 1

Service Line Manager Geophysics – FUGRO Germany Land GmbH (2019–2020)

Led the geophysics division in Berlin & Saxony, introduced business plans, built teams, and improved economic performance within 18 months.

Project Coordinator & Data Manager – GFZ Potsdam (2015–2018)

Managed Horizon 2020 proposals, served on the Scientific Board, and coordinated data workflows for international continental drilling programs.

Physical Properties Specialist – IODP, Texas A&M University (2009–2015)

Sailed on scientific drilling expeditions aboard the JOIDES Resolution, analyzing marine sediments and mentoring multinational teams of early-career scientists.

Science & Industry Roles – USA (2004–2009)

Worked offshore as a surveyor, as a scientific diver and video producer for A&E, NOAA and Discovery Channel, and supported marine NGO projects (Kauai, 2008/2009).

Early Career – University of Hawai‘i & GEOMAR Kiel (1991–2003)

From student research assistant to postdoc, I studied marine geology, gas hydrates, and energy alternatives.

Selected Honors & Awards

- SEG ExxonMobil Scholarship (1997–2000)
 - IODP Annual Award for Client Service (2011–2014)
 - Documentary Film Prize (Film Festival Schleswig-Holstein, 1995: „The Dust of Life“, about street-kids in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)
 - iParenting Media Award (2005/06, Safety DVD projects for children)
-

Publications (Selection)

- *Marine Geology*: Sound speed & attenuation in seabeds (2002)
 - *Marine Geology*: Sedimentation rates off SW Africa (2002)
 - *Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems*: XRF Core Scanning Calibration (2020)
 - Further publications upon request
-

Skills & Interests

- **Languages:** German (native), English (C2), Spanish (basic)

Thomas J. Gorgas, Ph.D.

Geoscientist, mentor, and entrepreneur — committed to connecting science with society 2

- Project management, leadership, and mentoring
 - Science communication: films (since 1991), public lectures, editorial writing
 - Professional video production (award-winning documentaries and educational media for and with A&E, Discovery Channel, NOAA, UH-M, CAU-Kiel)
 - GIS, borehole geophysics, vertical data integration, Geo-NMR
-

Community & Engagement

- Environmental and community service (e.g., clean-up actions, animal adoption)
 - Mentorship for students and young professionals
 - Hurricane shelter management, American Red Cross (Hawai‘i, 2000–2003)
-

Thomas J. Gorgas, Ph.D.

Geoscientist, mentor, and entrepreneur — committed to connecting science with society 3