CLAIMS:

1. A cleaning head for cleaning a submerged surface, the cleaning head comprising:

a body portion;

at least one housing arranged to house a rotatable cleaning member for causing material on the submerged surface to separate from the submerged surface when the cleaning head is disposed on the submerged surface during use and the cleaning member moves relative to the submerged surface; and

at least one suction aperture in fluid communication with a space defined between the respective housing and the submerged surface during use;

an impeller within the respective housing, the impeller configured to reduce pressure in a region between the respective housing and the submerged surface during use;

wherein during use when the cleaning head is disposed on the submerged surface and the at least one suction aperture is connected in fluid communication with a device for generating a negative pressure, material separated from the submerged surface by the at least one cleaning member is drawn away from the cleaning head through the suction aperture;

wherein the at least one cleaning member comprises at least one rotatable disc portion with at least one cleaning element removably disposed on the rotatable disc portion;

wherein the rotatable disc portion is connected to the impeller within the housing, and the at least one suction aperture is in fluid communication through the rotatable disc portion and the impeller with the region between the respective housing and the submerged surface during use; and

the cleaning head is arranged to generate a fluid current adjacent the submerged surface when the at least one cleaning element disposed on the rotatable disc portion moves relative to but substantially does not touch the submerged surface during use, the fluid current and the rotatable disc portion including the at least one cleaning element causing material to separate from the submerged surface.

2. The cleaning head according to claim 1, wherein the body portion comprises a plurality of body portion sections moveably connected together.

3. The cleaning head according to claim 1, including a skirt portion extending around a periphery of a body portion of the cleaning head.

4. The cleaning head according to claim 3, wherein the skirt portion has a bristle-like configuration.

5. The cleaning head according to claim 1, comprising a height adjustment system arranged to facilitate adjustment of the distance between the body portion and the submerged surface to be cleaned, and thereby adjustment of the degree of compression of the skirt portion during use, and adjustment of the efficacy of the seal formed between the skirt portion and the submerged surface.

6. The cleaning head according to claim 1, comprising a drive mechanism arranged to urge the cleaning head to move relative to the submerged surface during use.

7. The cleaning head according to claim 5, wherein the height adjustment system is arranged to facilitate adjustment of the distance between one or more drive

shafts and the body portion of the cleaning head.

8. The cleaning head according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of the cleaning members.

9. The cleaning head according to claim 1, wherein at least one cleaning element includes a foot portion disposed at a first side of the cleaning element facing towards the direction of movement of the cleaning element during use, and a cut out portion disposed at a second side of the cleaning element facing away from the direction of movement of the cleaning element during use.

10. The cleaning head according to claim 9, wherein the foot portion is substantially wedge shaped.

11. The cleaning head according to claim 10, wherein the wedge shape tapers at an angle of approximately 45°.

12. The cleaning head according to claim 9, wherein the shape of the cut out portion is substantially the same as the shape of the foot portion.

13. The cleaning head according to claim 9, wherein each cleaning element is arranged to rotate such that the cut out portion follows a rotational path defined by the foot portion.

14. The cleaning head according to claim 1, comprising a housing arranged to rotatably receive the impeller, the housing including a housing skirt portion arranged to perform a sealing function between the housing and the submerged surface desired to be cleaned when the cleaning head is disposed on the submerged surface during use.

15. The cleaning head according to claim 1, wherein the impeller comprises a hollow raised section having alternately circumferentially disposed wall portions and wall apertures, and at least one impeller blade extending outwardly of a respective wall portion, the hollow raised section defining an impeller aperture in fluid communication with the wall apertures, wherein rotation of the impeller causes a reduction in pressure in the hollow raised section.

16. The cleaning head according to claim 15, wherein the disc portion includes a central aperture and the hollow raised section is disposed adjacent and in fluid communication with the central aperture.

17. The cleaning head according to claim 16, wherein the impeller is resiliently connected to the cleaning member.

18. A method of cleaning a submerged surface, the method comprising:

providing a cleaning head having:

a body portion; and

at least one housing arranged to house a rotatable cleaning member having at least one rotatable disc portion with at least one cleaning element removably disposed on the rotatable disc portion for causing material on the submerged surface to separate from the submerged surface when the cleaning head is disposed on the submerged surface and the at least one rotatable disc portion with the at least one removable cleaning element moves rotates relative to the submerged surface; and

an impeller mounted within the respective housing, the impeller configured to reduce pressure in a region between the respective housing and the submerged surface during use; and

providing at least one suction aperture in fluid communication through the rotatable disc portion and the impeller with a space defined between the respective housing and the submerged surface during use;

disposing the cleaning head on the submerged surface such that the cleaning head contacts the submerged surface;

connecting the space defined between the body portion and the submerged surface in fluid communication through the suction aperture with a device for generating a negative pressure; and

activating said device and rotating the at least one rotatable disc portion of the cleaning member and the impeller within the housing so that material is separated from the submerged surface and is drawn away from the cleaning head;

wherein the at least one cleaning element removably disposed on the rotatable disc is arranged to generate a fluid current adjacent the submerged surface when the cleaning element moves relative to but substantially does not touch the submerged surface during use, the fluid current assisting to cause material to separate from the submerged surface.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising rotating the disc portion with each cleaning member using one or more hydraulic motors.

20. The method as claimed in claim 18, comprising providing at least one said cleaning element with a foot portion disposed at a first side of the cleaning element facing towards the direction of rotation during use, and a cut out portion disposed at a second side of the cleaning element facing away from the direction of rotation thereof during use.

21. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the cleaning head includes a skirt portion performing a sealing function between the body portion and the submerged surface.