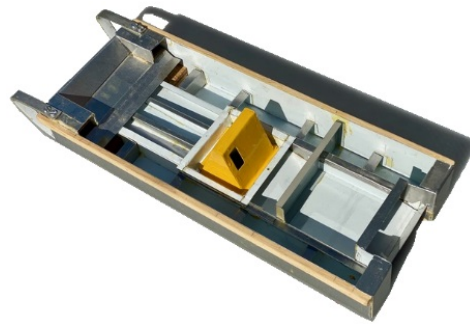


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Peter Russell, P.Eng., President,
RESTCo (Remote Energy Security Technologies Collaborative)
(613) 867-6784
peter@restco.ca

NEW MULTI-FUNCTION BOAT DESIGN FOR OIL SPILL RECOVERY IN NEAR-SHORE WATERS
Innovative design can also collect plastic pollution, algae blooms, seaweed

Ottawa, Ont.: RESTCo today announced a new design iteration of its multi-function oil spill recovery boat designed for community-based rapid response. Designed to carry out routine daily functions, it will always be ready for operation using crew who know local waters, and can be reconfigured and deployed within an hour of call-out. The basic vessel uses an integrated hull and patented Canadian gravity collection system, and can also carry a range of other spill response tools chosen by RESTCo over years of evaluation and in-house development.



The gravity collection system was tested at the U.S. government's facility at Ohmsett NJ, and proved to be capable of high rates of oil recovery on both calm water and in waves.

The primary function of the boat could be harbour patrol, aquaculture, environmental monitoring, shoreline clean-up, buoy-tending or any number of typical workboat functions. A community therefore wouldn't face the expense of a dedicated vessel and crew for a rare event, yet it would still have a vessel at hand which can respond to a community emergency, such as a fuel spill, more quickly than remote equipment, which can take days to arrive on scene. At 7 metres long and 2.5 metres wide, such boats can be quickly trailered by road from adjacent communities to supplement the recovery effort when an oil spill is beyond a single local boat's capacity to remove. In addition to the gravity collection system, the boat can carry personnel and equipment (e.g. an ATV) to shoreline areas not accessible by road. It can also deliver oil-barrier water fences

to prevent oil from reaching the shoreline and can spray bioremediants on the spill area, speeding up environmental remediation.

“This boat addresses the problem of oil in the near-shore zone, which requires



rapid and effective response, and is insufficiently addressed by Canada’s current oil spill response regime. In addition to oil recovery, local waters can be protected from algae blooms and other floating pollution”, said Peter Russell, President of RESTCo, emphasizing that “the multiple functions of the boat mean communities don’t need to

undertake the expense of a single-use vessel.”

Building on progress through the open-water season in 2020, RESTCo intends to build a full-size boat next to validate new design features and demonstration in 2021. RESTCo welcomes contact from coastal communities or businesses which see the value in having local spill response capacity combined with a workboat. For more information on near-shore oil/fuel spill recovery and remediation, and the RESTCo multi-function boat, visit <https://www.restco.ca/near-shore-spill-recovery.shtml>.

RESTCo is an engineering and science research and development company. It is currently working on removal of microplastics from open water with a grant from the National Geographic Society, and continues to design and refine solutions for a range of pollution issues. For more about RESTCo, visit <https://www.restco.ca>.

Media Contact: Dr. William A. (Bill) Adams), VP Strategy
RESTCo (Remote Energy Security Technologies Collaborative)
(613) 851-0829 bill@restco.ca

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