

SmartBay Project Assessment

Presentation to
ACZISC Meeting #54
15 May 2008, St. John's, NL

By Don Hogan, ACOA NL

Outline of Presentation

- Purpose and Methodology
- Project Description
- Safety Improvements
- Cost Savings
- Ocean Technology Benefits
- Suggested Enhancements
- Future of SmartBay

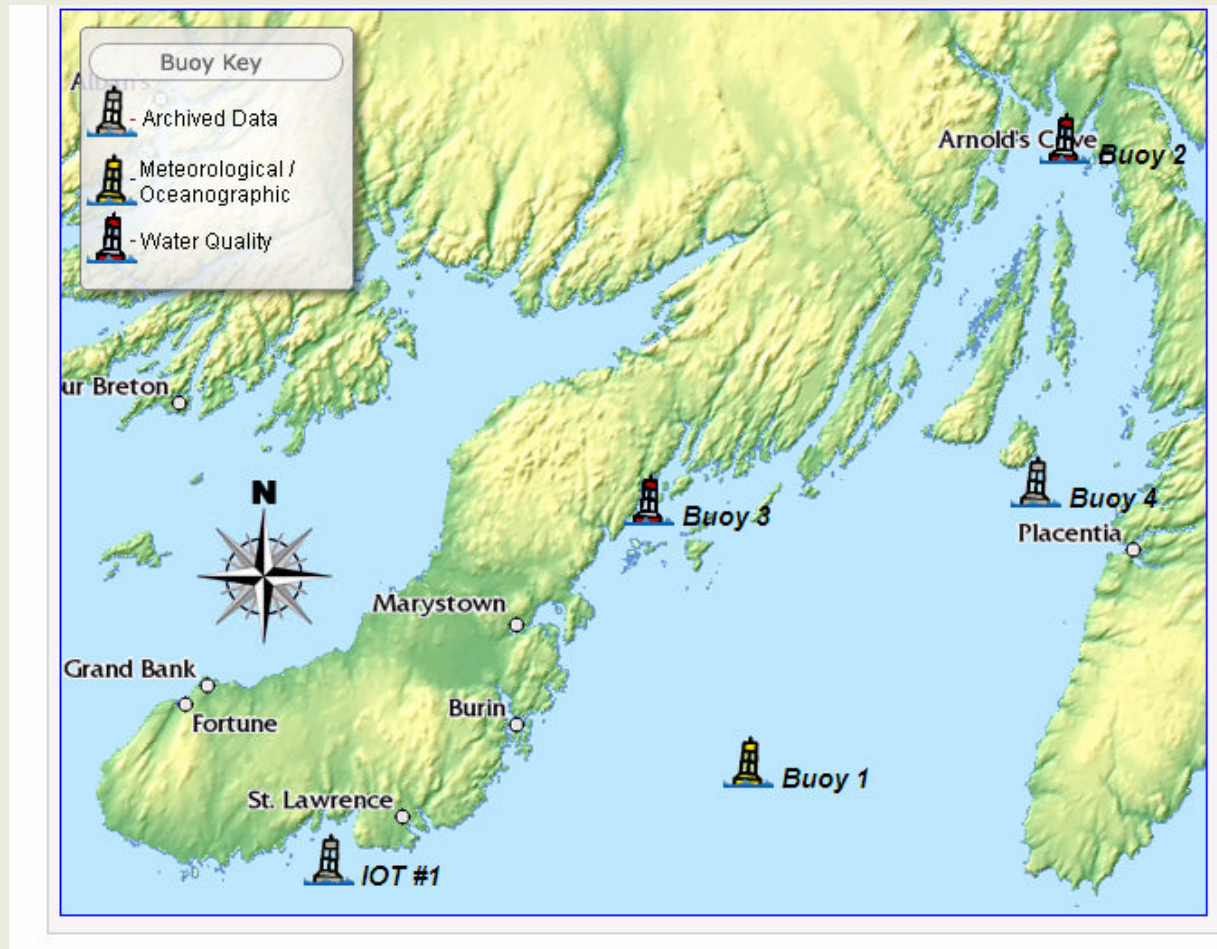
Purpose and Methodology

- Meet Evaluation Requirements
- Interviews with 45 Stakeholders
- Web Portal Statistics
- Project Files

Project Description

- AIS (Automatic Identification Systems) installed on workboats/fishing vessels
- Buoys deployed to provide real-time weather, oceanographic and water quality information
- Portal provides access to layers of information in support of Integrated Management (IM)

Buoy Access Most Important Feature



Website Information Layers - SmartBay.ca

(Average Daily Visitors = 350 users)



BUOY DATA

Real-time info on sea state, atmospheric conditions and water quality



SEABED MAPPING

3-D flythrough of bay and seafloor map customization



HARBOURS

Small Craft Harbours info, aerial photos



WATER QUALITY

Water column data from 11 provincial sites



COMMUNITIES

Detailed profiles of all Communities in Bay



INDUSTRIAL SITES

Locations/links to existing and proposed major sites



WEATHER

Regional and site-specific forecasts at 4 locations



COMMITTEES

Host for Placentia Bay Integrated Management Committee



OCEAN SCIENCE

Source info on 85+ DFO databases



NEWS

Repository for Placentia Bay news items

Source: Earth Information Technologies (Nfld) Ltd

Safety Improvements

Buoy information improving safety in the Bay:

- Better wind/wave information improving decision making by tanker operators, Atlantic Pilotage Authority, fishers, etc. on 'when to go'
- Those deploying Automatic Identification Systems (AIS), reported "greater sense of security" while fishing in tanker 'traffic lanes'; AIS provides back-up for radar in heavy rain/wind conditions
- Canadian Coast Guard operations big user of SmartBay

Actual and Potential Savings

Actual and *potential* benefits in the order of \$1M on an annual basis:

- Tanker savings in demurrage charges ~ \$660K
- Fuel savings for fishers ~ \$225K
- Fuel savings to tanker operators ~ \$93K
- Savings to Atlantic Pilotage Authority ~ \$21K
- (Un-quantified) savings to Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process
- ECS (electronic chart system) allows fishers to mark exact location of lost gear – reducing retrieval costs

Ocean Technology Benefits

All project partners reported 'enhancements' to capabilities:

- Data management and display systems (ICAN)
- Emergency response technologies / buoy enhancements (AMEC)
- 'Became Eastern Canada leader in web-based GIS' (EIT Ltd)
- Increased capabilities in OOS design, buoy communications and sensor set-up (CCMC)
- MUN/MI School of Ocean Technology demonstration platform

Incremental projects being undertaken include:

- HF Radar project
- Sensor Bay project (Compusult)
- Fish tracking (Lotek)
- SmartBuoy development

Suggested Enhancements

- Requirement for buoy at the Red Island Pilot Boarding Station
- Archived and published data, including aids to navigation, notices to mariners, tide data, bridge clearances, etc.
- Daily reporting of vessels departing and arriving
- Fisheries licensing information
- ECS should include ability to add depths from fishers soundings to charts
- AIS-lite for smaller boats operating in the Bay

Suggested Enhancements *(cont'd)*

- SmartBay needs to 'go into the schools'
- Environment Canada's environmental sensitivity maps should be accessible through portal
- Should develop specific applications for aquaculture
- Habitat and geology layers from the Geological Survey of Canada should be added; ditto Canadian Hydrographic Service charts
- Include time series on fish quotas, biomass, etc. to create biotic layer
- Fog forecast using observers and land station systems

Summary of Findings

- Marine safety in Bay improved
- Vessel operators realizing savings
- Has expedited EIS work on major projects
- Serving as catalyst for ocean technology industry
- Strong ties to MI's School of Ocean Technology
- Has *potential* to become world class tool in support of integrated management

The Future

- ACOA funding in place for next 6-8 months
- MI proposal to Province - to move to *operations phase*
- 'Fee for Service' approach being suggested for Transport Canada / Environment Canada / Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Placentia Bay marine users willing to contribute