



CALL 9 FUNDING AWARDED FOR ASSET INTEGRITY

St. John's, NL (January 19, 2009) Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada (PRAC) has approved funding for its ninth Call for Research Proposals with a theme focus on Asset Integrity.

The Call objectives are to better understand the nature and extent of damage to offshore (and other) infrastructure due to corrosion, wear and fatigue; to investigate alternatives to existing materials and methods that can better withstand operations in harsh environments; and to develop innovative technologies that will help improve production assurance, enable inspection without shutdown, and enhance asset life.

PRAC has approved funding for the following six projects:

- Advanced Ceramic-Metal Composites for Demanding Corrosion-Wear Environments - Project Lead, Dr. Kevin Plucknett, Dalhousie University.
- Computed Tomography (CT) for the Atlantic Petroleum Industry - Project Lead, Dr. Jake Arsenault, Inversa Systems Limited.
- Development of a Time-Domain Vortex Induced Vibration (VIV) Prediction and Analysis Tool - Project Lead, Dr. Wei Qiu, Memorial University.
- Development of a Tool for Risk Based Integrity (RBI) Assessment of Process Components - Project Lead, Dr. Faisal Khan, Memorial University.
- Non-Destructive Vibration-Based Damage Detection Technique for Monitoring and Inspecting Subsea Pipelines - Project Lead, Dr. Farid Taheri, Dalhousie University.
- Structural Health Monitoring and Damage Detection for Offshore Structures - Project Lead, Dr. Hesham Marzouk, Memorial University.

PRAC is a member-based, not-for-profit organization that funds and facilitates collaborative research and development (R&D) to support the safe and environmentally-sound development of Atlantic Canada's petroleum resources. A public-private partnership, PRAC funds and facilitates petroleum-related R&D on behalf of its members, which include industry, government and academia.

For more details regarding these awards, please contact Jennifer Pinks, Research Grants Manager, at (902) 494-2960 or visit www.pr-ac.ca.