

*For Immediate Release*

## **PRAC contributes to \$1.45 million CNG project**

August 24th, 2005

*St. John's* – Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada (PRAC) has recently awarded funding to Trans Ocean Gas for a project that will test the safety and reliability of fiber reinforced plastic (FRP) pressure vessels to be used for the transportation of compressed natural gas (CNG) by ship.

"Trans Ocean Gas is pleased that PRAC has identified the importance of our emerging technology and recognizes the potential for job creation and other economic impacts that will come from its use," says Steve Campbell, president of Trans Ocean Gas. "We are confident that the regulatory approval necessary to commercialize our technology will be received within the next twelve months. We look forward to a bright and prosperous future here in Atlantic Canada."

PRAC's \$50,000 contribution toward this \$1.45 million project assisted Trans Ocean Gas in obtaining significant additional public funds.

"Although this technology holds world-wide appeal, it may also facilitate the exploitation of vast stranded natural gas reserves off the East Coast of Canada. Until now, stranded natural gas fields were too isolated or too small to make use of expensive pipeline or liquefied natural gas (LNG) systems," says John Melville, director of research planning and industry liaison with PRAC.

Currently, there are billions of dollars worth of stranded natural gas located offshore in the Atlantic region.

"Trans Ocean Gas CNG technology has the potential to change this forever, and may allow smaller, more isolated fields to be developed at less cost than would otherwise be the case with older technologies," says Melville.

Trans Ocean Gas is the exclusive licensee of the patent to use FRP pressure vessels to transport CNG by truck, by train, by road and by modal containment.

PRAC is a federally incorporated, not for profit, public-private partnership that started operations in 1999. PRAC is committed to increasing the capacity and the scale of petroleum-related research and development in Atlantic Canada. PRAC operates from full-time offices in St. John's, N.L., and Halifax, N.S., as well as from a part-time office in Fredericton, N.B. Visit PRAC online at [www.pr-ac.ca](http://www.pr-ac.ca).

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