

Press Release:

Making Sense of Water Quality

EU Consortium to Develop an Advanced Aquaculture Sensor

The AquaMMS project involves a consortium of European Small/Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Research and Development (R&D) Institutions working together to develop a new real-time multi-sensor monitoring device for the aquaculture industry. The device will use an array of advanced approaches, including mass spectrometry and optical technologies, to measure a wide range of parameters that can affect the water quality in fish farms, more specifically in recirculation systems (RAS). This new technology will provide fish farmers with immediate advanced warning of potential harmful substances, such as toxic chemicals and algal or bacterial metabolites. This will allow the farmer time to take a management decision like increasing oxygen flow or employing a specific water treatment to rectify the problem.

The AquaMMS project is a two-year, €1.5M project funded by the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme through a scheme that provides SMEs access to expertise at R&D Institutions. The development work is initiated by Q-Technologies, a UK company that develops miniature mass spectrometry sensors for environmental monitoring and applications in the oil and gas industry and for homeland security. Q-Technologies combine forces with Faaltech, a specialist water monitoring and sensor manufacturing company based in Cork, Ireland; BAMO, Germany, a leading distributor of advanced sensor technology to the European market; Anglesey Aquaculture, UK, operating one of the leading companies in the production of seabass in the world, and Telemarkkroye, Norway-based Arctic char producer. The University of Liverpool, UK, Teknologisk Institutt (project coordinator), Norway, and Centre for Advanced Photonics and Process Analysis (CAPPA) at Cork Institute of Technology, Ireland, will carry out the research needed to modify and develop the AquaMMS technology for use in the aquaculture industry.

For more information about the project, please contact:

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Or visit the project website: <http://www.aquamms.com/>

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