

ENHANCING THE MECHANICAL RECOVERY OF OIL FROM MARINE AND FRESHWATER ENVIRONMENTS

Energy lives here

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- Two concepts under investigation
 - Water-permeable / oil-impermeable boom skirt
 - Semi-finalist NRCan Oil Spill Response Challenge
 - Shear-thinning skimmer
 - Received grant from Canadian Multi-partner Research Initiative 2.0

Water permeable / oil impermeable boom skirt





Standard impermeable boom places large forces on tow boats – two "big boats" needed to handle load

Water permeable / oil impermeable boom skirt





Water permeable boom reduces load allowing "small boat" for second tow line

Water permeable / oil impermeable boom skirt



To avoid entrainment of oil under boom requires slow towing speeds



Permeable skirt will minimize entrainment allowing greater towing speeds



Small-scale test flume





Impermeable skirt – dyed caster oil



30 x 30 coated mesh - dyed caster oil

SUMMARY

- Water permeable / oil impermeable boom under development
 - Reduces tow forces needed to pull boom
 - Allows towing at higher speeds while collecting oil

PLANS

- Scale testing at New Jersey Institute of Technology
 - Evaluate various screen / boom geometries
 - Test different oleophobic / hydrophilic coatings
- Build large-scale prototype and test at Ohmsett and at sea

