



## ***SCeMFIS Announces New Members: Intershell International Corporation and The Town Dock/Seafreeze Ltd.***

*July 11, 2017, Gloucester Pt., VA* - Intershell International Corporation, and The Town Dock/Seafreeze Ltd. have become the newest industry partners at the [Science Center for Marine Fisheries \(SCeMFIS\)](#). SCeMFIS is a partnership between fishing industry members, government agencies, non-profits, trade organizations, the [Virginia Institute of Marine Science \(VIMS\)](#), the [University of Southern Mississippi \(USM\)](#), and is part of the National Science Foundation's Industry/University Cooperative Research Center program. Other partners include Atlantic Capes Fisheries, Bumble Bee Seafoods Inc., Garden State Seafood Association, LaMonica Fine Foods, Lund's Fisheries Inc., National Fisheries Institute Clam Committee, National Fisheries Institute Scientific Monitoring Committee, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Omega Protein, Sea Watch International and Surfside Seafood Products.

SCeMFIS is responsible for [research projects](#) that have led to major breakthroughs in fisheries science. One project of interest to Monte Rome, Owner of Intershell International Corporation, was the development of the [Dameron-Kubiak research dredge](#). The dredge has allowed researchers to collect various sizes of juvenile clams proving that there is regular recruitment of ocean quahogs to the fishery. This information is a critical component in the development of shellfish management plans.

The Town Dock and Seafreeze Ltd. have pooled their funds to become the first SCeMFIS combined Industry-Advisory Board (IAB) Member. Katie Almeida, Fishery Policy Analyst with The Town Dock and Meghan Lapp, Fisheries Liaison at Seafreeze Ltd. state, "We are both looking forward to working with SCeMFIS to help close scientific data gaps, give more scientific certainty to stock assessments and the fishery management process, and provide stability for the future of our businesses." The Town Dock is the largest supplier of longfin squid (calamari) in the United States and Seafreeze Ltd. is the largest producer and trader of at sea frozen fish on the U.S. East Coast.

"On behalf of the members of SCeMFIS, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our

newest members Intershell International Corporation and The Town Dock/Seafreeze Ltd.," states Guy Simmons, SCeMFiS Chair and VP of Marketing and Product Development at Sea Watch International. "The Town Dock/Seafreeze Ltd. and Intershell International Corporation have joined our organization to seek the 'Best Science' available to fortify our respective fishery management plans. Whether a large corporation or smaller independently owned company, our membership levels can accommodate participation in this important endeavor. We appreciate the confidence displayed by our new members in SCeMFiS and look forward to their insights."

SCeMFiS has [7 newly funded projects](#) covering a broad spectrum of fisheries issues. Several SCeMFiS research projects are especially relevant to the work of The Town Dock/Seafreeze Ltd. Of particular interest is Evaluation of Alternative Approaches to Risk-Based Catch Advice and representation on the stock assessment team which will provide external support to NMFS for the benchmark assessment working group focusing on the 2017 Atlantic mackerel assessment.

The Town Dock/Seafreeze Ltd. have chosen to partner with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science as their affiliated academic institution while Intershell Seafood Corporation will partner with the University of Southern Mississippi. "SCeMFiS continues to grow and its research portfolio continues to expand. This year SCeMFiS has taken on important new challenges in survey design, ocean quahog life history, forage fish, and uncertainty in stock assessments. We look forward to working with these new companies in a continuing expansion of our research portfolio," says Dr. Eric Powell, SCeMFiS Center Director and Professor at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Dr. Roger Mann, a Professor of Marine Science at VIMS and the Virginia Site Director at SCeMFiS, indicates that there are many ways industry members benefit from partnering with SCeMFiS. "Members gain access to an international group of experts who can focus on technical problems that are challenging your sector of the fishing industry," said Dr. Mann. He also noted that SCeMFiS follows the research standards of the National Science Foundation, the "gold standard" in U.S. scientific research. "This places the results of any IAB funded effort beyond reproach as these results are used to advance the goals of sustainable harvest."

By becoming SCeMFiS IAB members and partners, Intershell International Corporation, and The Town Dock/Seafreeze Ltd. help to determine funding for research projects which are pertinent to industry needs. Membership in SCeMFiS allows their businesses to expand upon their current commitment to sustainable and responsible fishing.

## **About Intershell International Corporation, The Town Dock and Seafreeze Ltd.**

Intershell International Corporation specializes in shellfish products, Intershell International Corporation delivers the highest level of quality sea product in a timely and professional manner, purposes at obtaining satisfactory reply based on our proud products designing, management and procedural monitoring system and seeks opportunities to strengthen the level of service and improve the standard of technology. By building strong relationships with vendors, customers, and other business partners, Intershell will continue to grow.

With a waterfront location, multiple processing facilities, exceptional partnerships, and a company-owned fishing fleet, The Town Dock is the largest purchaser of U.S. domestic East Coast squid. For the last 37 years, The Town Dock has been a recognized leader in calamari (squid) products worldwide. The company offers a full line of domestic and imported calamari products, and markets these products to customers in both the foodservice and retail segments. The Town Dock is committed to maintaining safe fishing practices and top quality products and remains committed to the fishing industry and surrounding community.

Seafreeze Ltd. is the largest producer and trader of sea-frozen fish on the U.S. East Coast, focusing on underutilized species such as Atlantic butterfish, Illex and longfin squid, Atlantic mackerel and Atlantic herring. Seafreeze operates two freezer trawlers, the F/V Persistence and F/V Relentless, and an onshore cold-storage facility, from which it ships frozen seafood to both domestic and international customers. Part of the storage operation is available to the public for cold storage. All Seafreeze's products are food grade, and are available for both human consumption as well as commercial and recreational bait. Seafreeze is a fishing company owned and operated by fishermen, committed to sustainable resources and a superior product that is requested around the globe.

### Contact:

Dr. Eric Powell, Center Director, University of Southern Mississippi - [eric.n.powell@usm.edu](mailto:eric.n.powell@usm.edu), (609) 432-0872 or Dr. Roger Mann, Site Director, Virginia Institute of Marine Science - [rmann@vims.edu](mailto:rmann@vims.edu), (804) 815-3550. For a complete list of contacts, see: <http://scemfis.org/contact.html>