

# Michigan Tech Great Lakes Research Center Updates

GLASS – Great Lakes Association of Science Ships 28th Annual Science  
Vessel Coordination Workshop  
Thursday, January 11, 2024

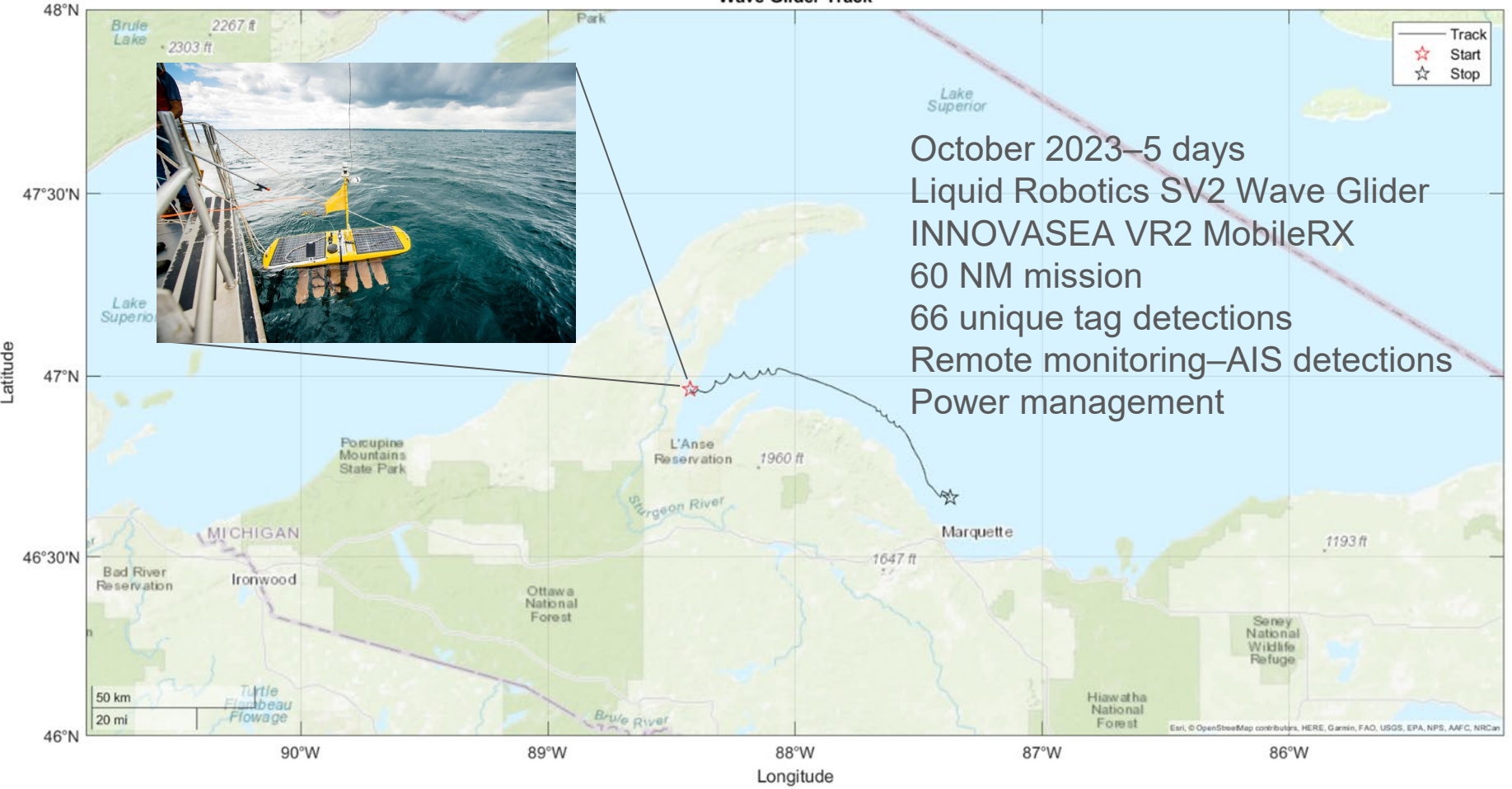
Presented by:

Travis White, Research Engineer, R/V Captain | [tmwhite@mtu.edu](mailto:tmwhite@mtu.edu)  
Jamey Anderson, Assistant Director and Head of Marine Operations | [jameya@mtu.edu](mailto:jameya@mtu.edu)

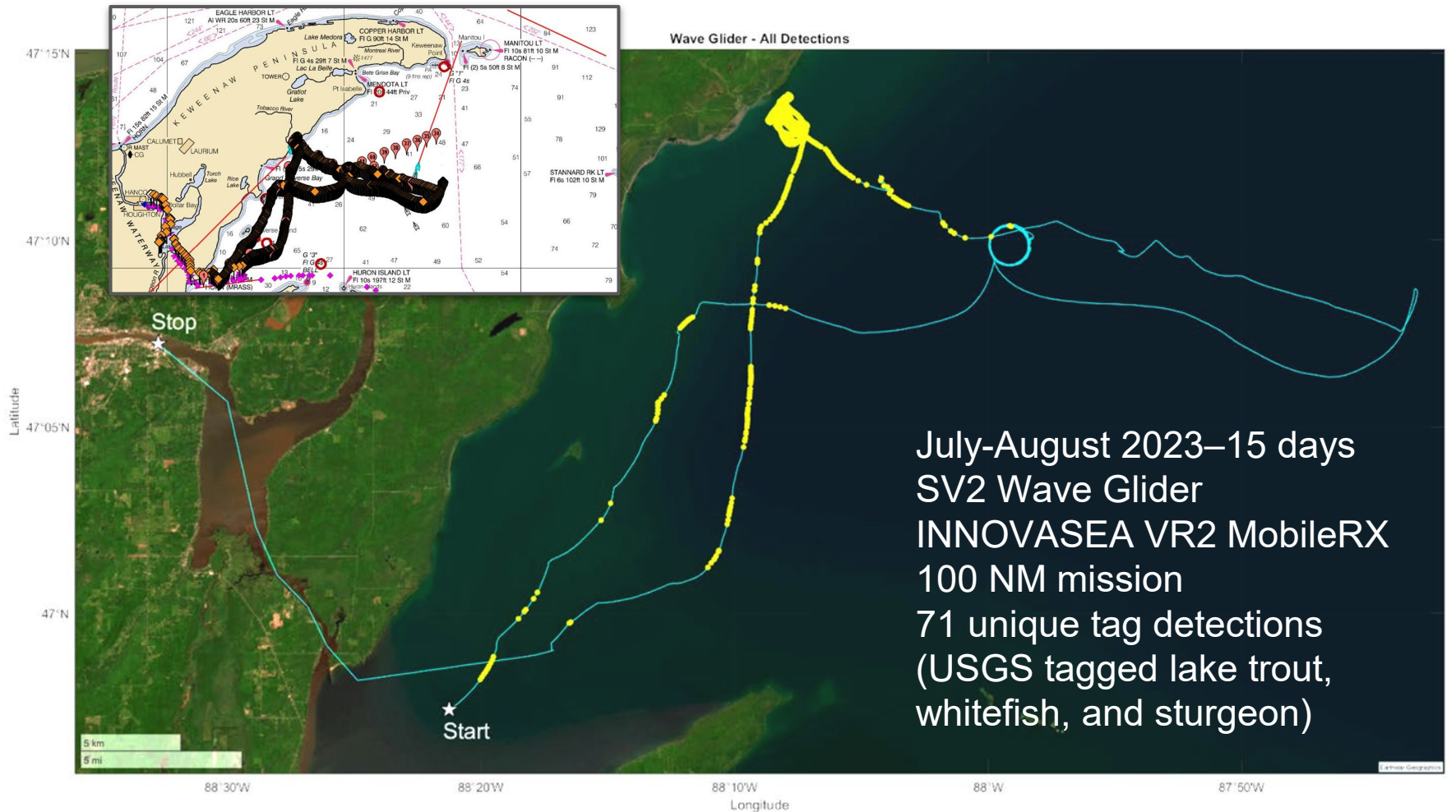


WORKSKIFF CMDR SERIES DEEP V - 25' X 8.5'  
Twin Mercury 150 FourStroke  
150 Gallons Fuel  
200# Lift Capacity

### Wave Glider Track

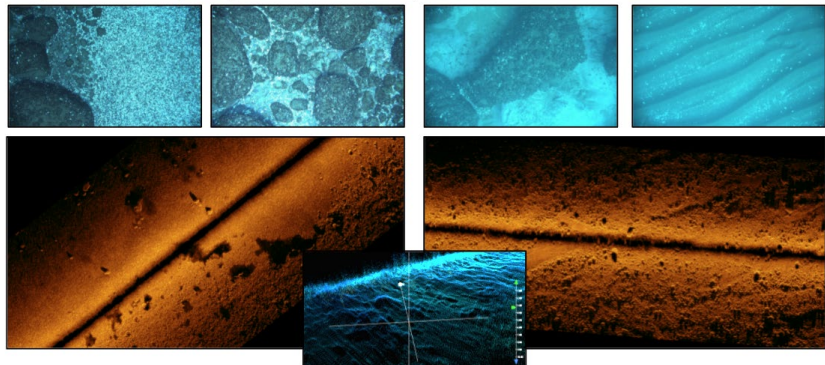


Wave Glider - All Detections



July-August 2023—15 days  
 SV2 Wave Glider  
 INNOVASEA VR2 MobileRX  
 100 NM mission  
 71 unique tag detections  
 (USGS tagged lake trout,  
 whitefish, and sturgeon)

Example AUV Survey Images and Sonar Data



L3Harris (Ocean Server) IVER 3 AUV  
200 mission hours in 2023  
Lake Superior, Lake Ontario, Lake Michigan



Industry Partnership with Ocean Infinity America  
C-Worker 8m ASV stationed at GLRC  
Available for collaborative use



Multi-role work class ASV  
Offshore/coastal tasks (e.g.  
environmental monitoring, surveying)  
Custom payloads (e.g. MBES, USBL,  
CTD, ADCP, acoustic devices)  
3kW payload power

# ARMADA 8: USV GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS



General	
Year Built	2018
Hull Type	Mono / Aluminium / Self Righting
Max Sea State (design)	Sea State 5
Weight	3.7te/4.8te <b>~8200 lbs dry</b>
Length	7.61m <b>25' OAL</b>
Beam	2.14m <b>7' beam</b>
Draft * (*minimum)	0.99m <b>3.3' draft</b>
Engines	Twin Yanmar 4JH 45HP Diesel
Propulsion	2 x Yanmar SD80 Sail Drives
Fuel Capacity	1,200 Ltr <b>317 gallons</b>
Max Speed	10kts
Endurance	7 Days @ 4tkts





**Navigation/Safety**  
Class B AIS TX/RX  
FLIR thermal cameras  
5x HD video cameras  
Kongsberg maritime  
broadband radios  
Simrad 4G radar  
Airmar DT800  
Redundant propulsion,  
communications, power



# ARMADA 8: USV - MAST

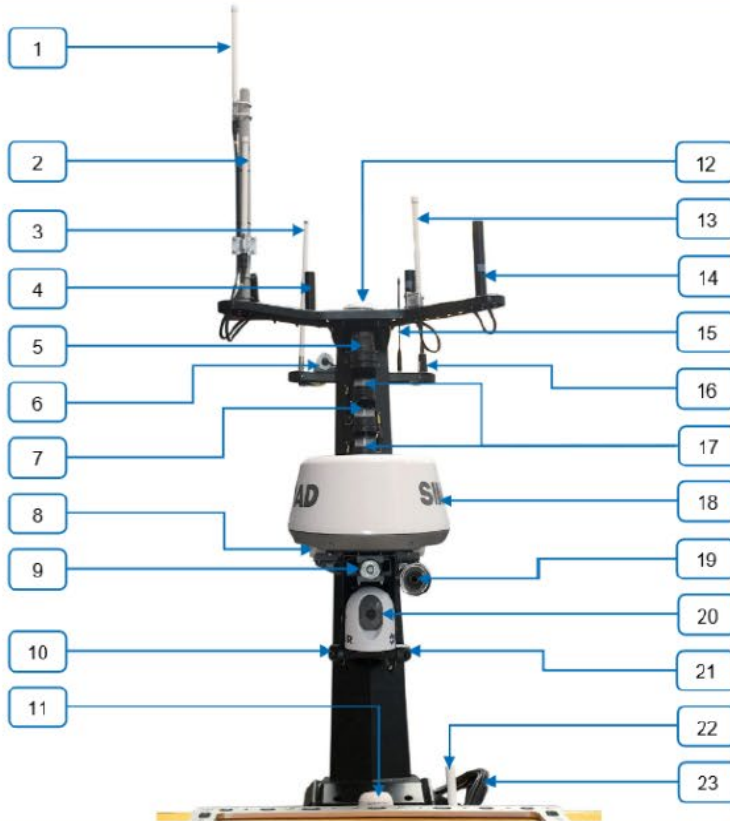
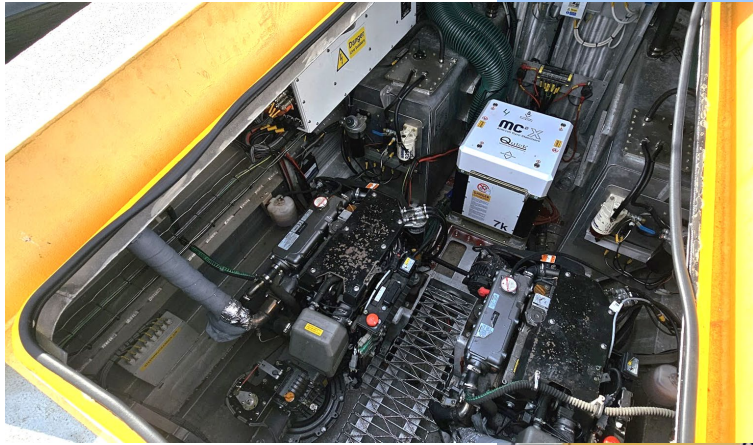


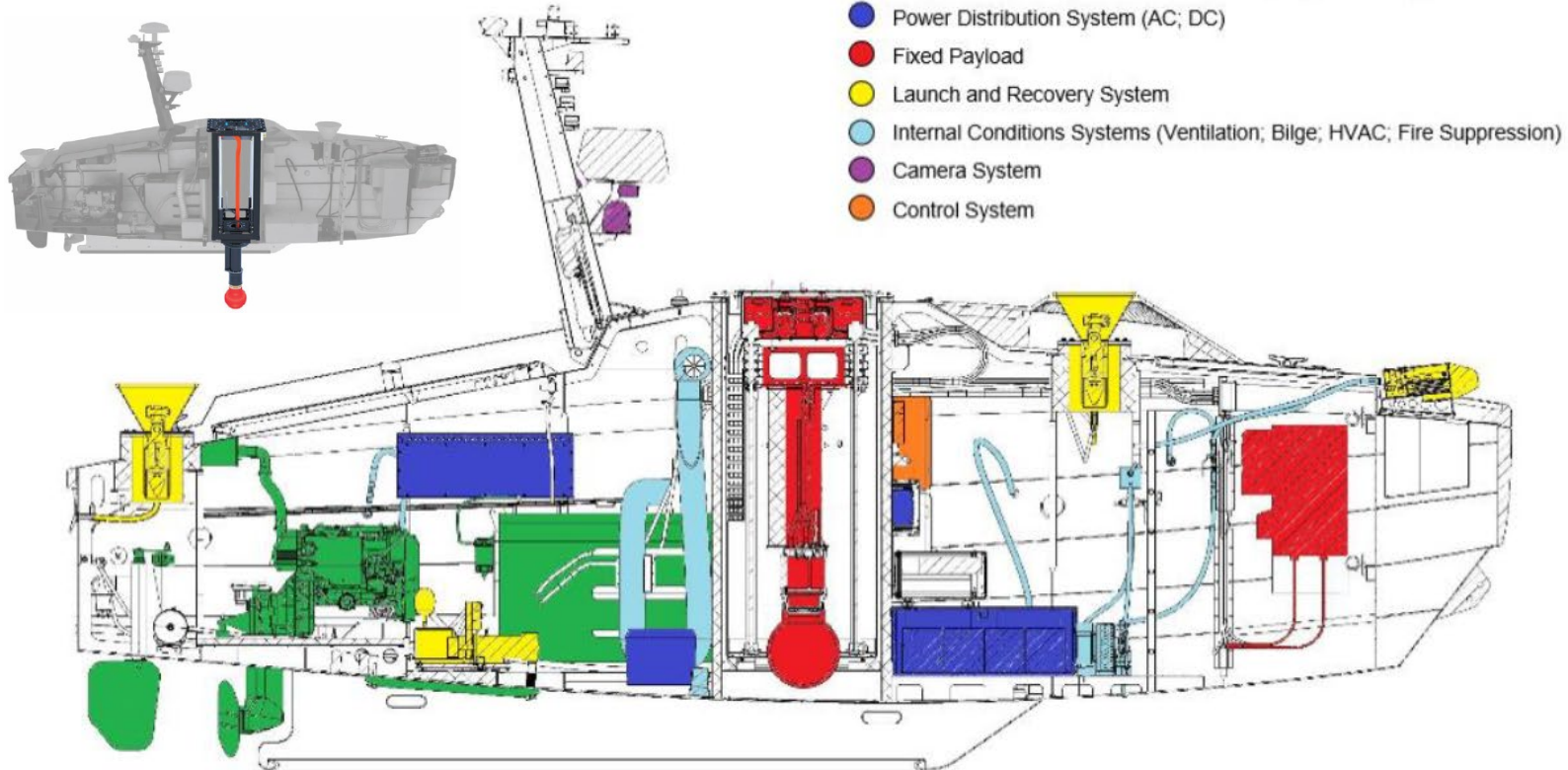
Figure 15

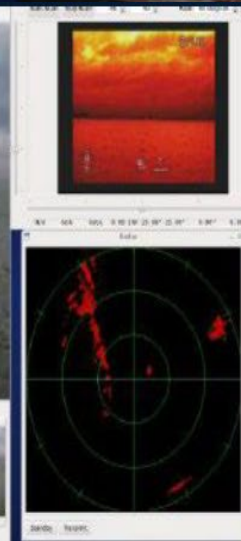
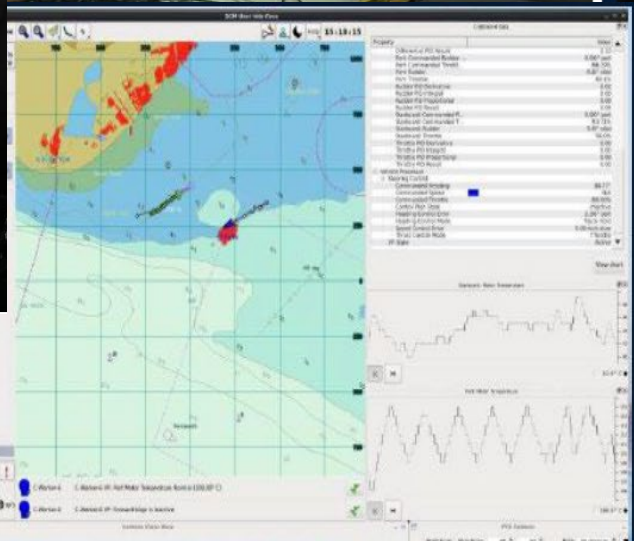
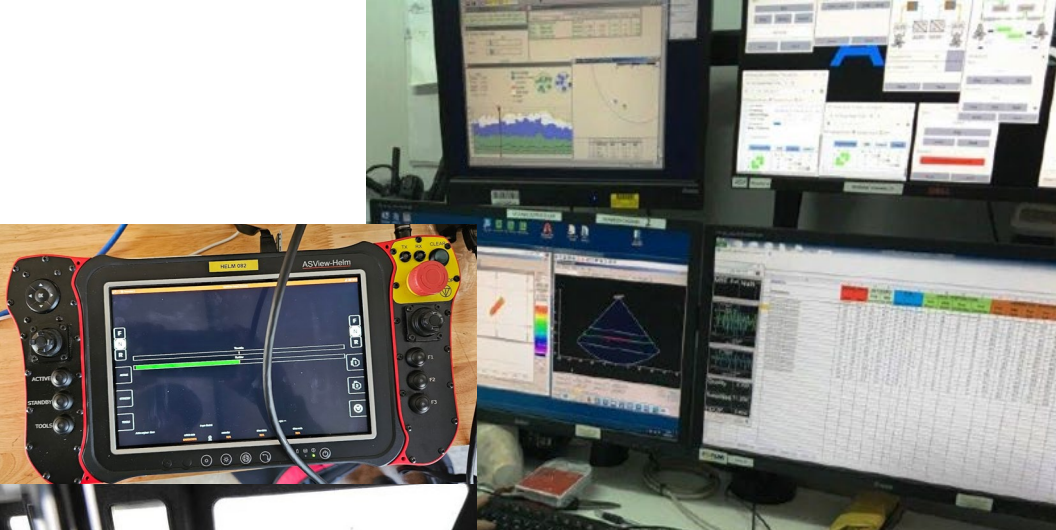
1	KM MBR antenna
2	KM MBR antenna
3	Secondary radio (WiFi) antenna
4	Spare antenna mount
5	Masthead white light
6	Aft facing camera
7	Signalling light – white
8	Side facing camera (P&S)
9	Forward facing camera
10	Starboard navigation light – green
11	GPS receiver
12	GNSS antenna
13	5 GHz mesh radio antenna
14	900MHz mesh radio antenna mount (antenna not fitted)
15	UHF antenna
16	AIS VHF antenna
17	Signalling lights – red
18	4G radar
19	Signalling horn
20	Thermal camera
21	Port navigation light – red
22	Iridium antenna
23	Cabling (P&S)



# ARMADA 8: USV – VESSEL SYSTEMS

## VEHICLE SYSTEMS





# ARMADA 8: USV NAVIGATIONAL / SIGNALLING SYSTEMS

Navigation System	
Signalling horn	Force 4, 160047 (Qty 1)
Standalone Iridium GPS tracker	Rock Seven, RockSTAR (Qty 1)
Masthead white light	C-Quip, 02-3855-101 (Qty 1)
Port navigation light	C-Quip, 3851001000 (Qty 1)
Starboard navigation light	C-Quip, 3850001000 (Qty 1)
Stern navigation light	C-Quip, 3850001000 (Qty 1)
Red signalling light	C-Quip, 02-3854-161 (Qty 2)
White signalling light	C-Quip, 02-3854-001 (Qty 1)
AIS transponder	McMurdo, Smartfind M10 (Qty 1)
AIS VHF antenna	Shakespeare, MD23-AIS (Qty 1)
AIS GPS antenna	2J Antenna, 2J7501B (Qty 1)

## Signaling

Signaling is used to control SeaWorker's navigation lights, signaling lights, foghorn and AIS transmitter.

The [Signaling](#) dashboard is accessed by clicking the [Dashboard Menu](#) button, and selecting [Signaling](#) from the drop-down menu.

### Lights Menu

Used to switch on/off SeaWorker's various lights.

### Foghorn Menu

Used to sound the horn using pre-programmed signals. Mouseover any of the options to show a brief description on screen.

### AIS Menu

Used to switch on/off AIS transmit.

The screenshot shows the 'Signaling' dashboard interface. It features a 'Lights' section with four rows: 'Running Lights' (On), 'Masthead Light' (On), 'Red Lights (NUC)' (Off), and 'White Light (RAM)' (Off). Below this is a 'Foghorn' section with a 3x3 grid of icons representing different horn sounds. The bottom section is titled 'AIS' and contains an 'AIS Transmit' toggle (On). At the bottom of the screen are 'Reset' and 'Send' buttons.



# 2023 Smart Ships Coalition / SNAME Annual Workshop

1.5 days of presentations,  
networking, and demos  
~75 industry participants  
15 speakers/panelists  
USCG & Transport Canada  
Participation





# USCG Automated and Autonomous Vessel Policy Council (AutoPoCo)



- Purpose: Develop policies and COAs to address operations of automated and autonomous vessels in U.S. waters
- Objectives:
  - ID existing regs and policies that apply
  - Develop guidance documents for field units and industry
  - ID reg and policy gaps
  - Serve as clearing house for unique projects
  - Make recommendations for training and education programs

- Organization:
  - Advisors: CG-5PS, CG-5PW, CG-5PC
  - Chair member: CAPT Cost (CG-ENG), CAPT Neeland (CG-CVC)
  - Core members:
    - CG-CVC
    - CG-MMC
    - NAVCEN
    - CG-WWM
    - CG-NAV
    - MSC
    - CG-OES
    - CG-INV

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security  
United States  
Coast Guard



Commandant  
United States Coast Guard

2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave, S.E.  
Stop 7501  
WASHINGTON DC 20593-7501  
Staff Symbol: CG-CVC  
Phone: (202) 372-1210  
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16711/Serial No. 1358  
CG-CVC Policy Letter 22-01  
February 16, 2022

*M. Edwards*

From: M. EDWARDS, CAPT  
COMDT (CG-CVC)

To: Distribution

Subj: **GUIDELINES FOR HUMAN-SUPERVISED TESTING OF REMOTE CONTROLLED AND AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS ON VESSELS**

Ref: (a) 46 United States Code § 8301  
(b) 46 Code of Federal Regulation part 15  
(c) Marine Safety Manual Vol. III, Marine Industry Personnel, COMDTINST M16000.8 (series)  
(d) IMO MSC Circular.1/1638, Outcome of the Regulatory Scoping Exercise for the Use of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS)

1. **PURPOSE.** This policy letter provides guidelines for testing, under human supervision, of remote controlled and autonomous systems on vessels. These tests, which shall not reduce vessel manning below that prescribed by law or regulations, may be conducted in order to evaluate the effectiveness of remote controlled and autonomous vessel systems under human supervision.

## ➤ Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security

- **Policy on the Oversight of Small Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (SMASS policy)** sets requirements for vessels:
  - not more than 12 metres in length as defined in the Small Vessel Regulations, or not more than 15GT
  - Remotely controlled (level of autonomy 3 as defined by IMO)
- The policy does not apply to MASS that have crew on board or are tethered to a mother vessel or a shore installation.



Transports  
Canada

Transport  
Canada





# 1 Policy objective

1.1 This policy aims to set the requirements for the operation of small Canadian Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS) when operated within Canadian waters. MASS do not have a crew or passengers on board and therefore will require alternative arrangements to comply with the existing regulatory requirements applicable under the [\*Canada Shipping Act, 2001\*](#) for manning, the prevention of collision at sea, and navigation safety.

# 2 Policy statement

2.1 The Authorized Representative (AR) of a small MASS must prepare a risk assessment before operating.

2.2 The risk assessment shall include proposed mitigating measures, to ensure the safety of navigation during the MASS operation provides a level of safety at least equivalent to a regularly crewed vessel.

2.3 The risk assessment must be made in accordance with an appropriate standard such as the **MASS UK Industry Conduct Principles and Code of Practice 2021 (V5)** <sup>1</sup> published by UK Maritime and as updated from time to time and take into account the elements and conditions stated in Annex 1 of this policy.

2.4 The AR must apply to the Marine Technical Review Board (MTRB) for approval before operation. Elements to be considered and provided when applying to the MTRB are listed in **Annex 1**.

2.5 Small MASS, including pleasure craft, of not more than 2 metres in length and gross weight not more than 100 kg are not required to perform a risk analysis nor submit an MTRB application, provided they operate within the conditions stated in Annex 2 of this policy.

# 3 Scope

3.1 This policy applies to small MASS of degree of autonomy three or four that are not more than 12 m in length as defined by the [\*Small Vessel Regulations\*](#), or not more than 15 Gross Tonnage.

3.2 The policy does not apply to MASS that has a crew or passenger on board.

3.3 This policy does not apply to small MASS that are physically tethered to a mother vessel, or a shore installation and that cannot interfere with other vessels' navigation during their operation.

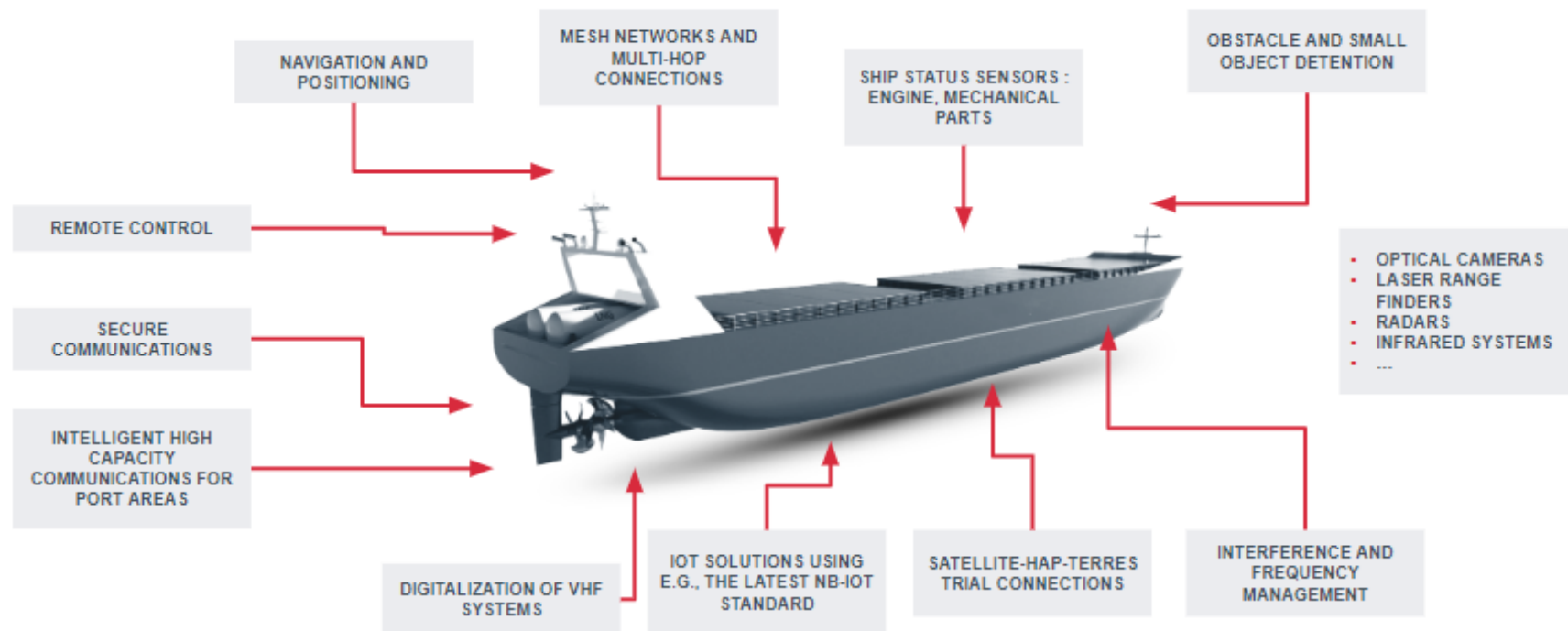
# MARITIME INNOVATION ROADMAP

Business Case	Data Sources	Connectivity	Cloud Infra	Data Ingestion	Data Sharing	Reporting	Modeling	Automation
Use Cases	3 <sup>rd</sup> party sources / Open Data	VSAT	Cloud Architecture	Data Architecture	IMO Mapping	Real-Time / "HMI"	Machine Learning	Edge AI / Assisted Navigation
Influencing Variables	Business applications	LEO	Cyber Security	Data Governance	APIs	Analytics / Business Intelligence	Federated Machine Learning	Levels of ship autonomy
	IoT sensors / Digital Twin	LTE / 5G						AI - Ship - Fleet - Ecosystem / SaaS
	Edge Computing							

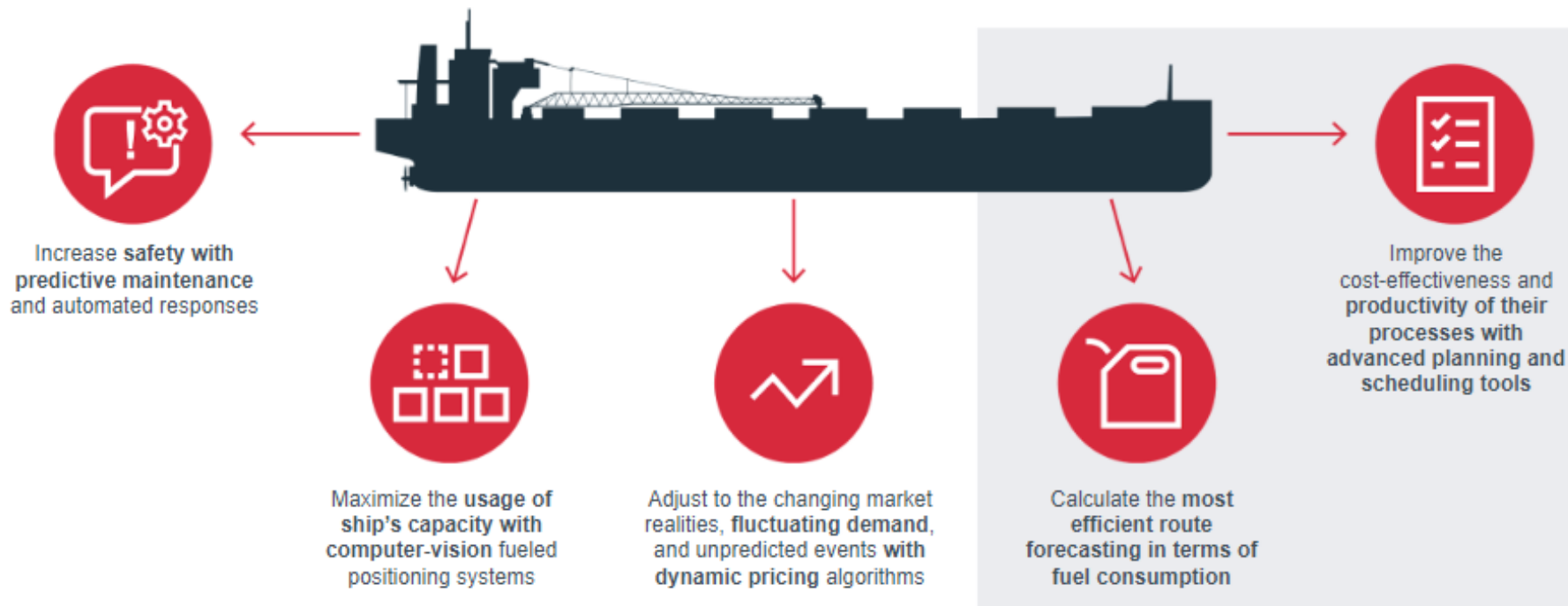
Internal operational process optimizations

# THE FOUNDATION FOR SHIPPING AUTONOMY

What's everything that goes into levels of an autonomous ship?



# MARITIME OPERATOR AI USE CASES



# PROPOSAL: A COLLECTIVE MISSION STATEMENT

Let's call it the **GREEN VOYAGE**



- Industry players collaborate
- To optimize the schedule, time and fuel for each voyage
- **By sharing relevant anonymized data and applications**
- Through APIs
- On AI-powered maritime data aggregation platforms
- That create consistent and self-improving actionable patterns, insights and routes
- For the maritime regional ecosystem & to the benefit of all stakeholders.

# MARITIME DATA INPUTS INFLUENCING THE GREEN VOYAGE

Data Assets  
influencing routes,  
fuel and scheduling  
for the Green Voyage



OPERATORS  
SHIPS

## Inputs Data Sets

### SHIP

- Ship type / model / Hullm and rudder loads / engine and propellor models / Windage / Service and fouling margins
- Ship owner
- Ship agent
- Speed over ground
- Speed over water
- Power
- Autopilot gain
- Turning radius
- Main RPM
- Auxiliary RPM
- Propeller pitch
- Dock power source : auxiliary engine or shore power

### CARGO

- Type
- Electric equipment during loading usage
- Electric equipment during discharging usage
- Hotel load
- Cargo weight
- Deadweight

### FUEL

- Bunker quantity
- Average consumption
- Price

## Inputs Data Sets

### NAVIGATION

- Voyage ID
- Direction / course
- Orientation / heading

### GEOGRAPHY

- Position
- Navigation zone
- Fore Draft
- Aft Draft
- Environmental regulations

### OUTSIDE FORCES

- Draft and trim
- Water levels
- Tides
- Wind
- Current
- Fouling
- Ice

### PEOPLE

- Pilot
- Pilot availabilities
- Pilot schedule
- Crew availabilities



# Recap of Great Lakes Uncrewed Systems Practitioners Roundtable Discussion (Spring 2023)

- Shortage of pilots, difficult for operators to be familiar with all of the proprietary control systems for many different uncrewed platforms; opportunity to leverage experienced people from other organizations to fill in gaps
- Challenge to communicate and coordinate uncrewed missions across commercial and recreational channels; no common practice for sharing float plans
- Great Lakes region inventory of surface and subsurface vehicles and capabilities needs to be developed w/ detailed descriptions using common terminology
- Develop and distribute SOPs with deployment guidance and other information for ASV/AUV missions
- Form consensus around data collection, operating procedures, and standards; guidance on identifying the right platform and sensors based on different mission needs and conditions
- Feedback from USCG is not totally consistent on the regulatory consequences of small/scientific uncrewed system operations; is the ship captain ultimately responsible for UxS deployed from their vessel even when remotely piloted from shore
- A pre/post season meeting of this group would be helpful to discuss mission planning and deployment strategies, document close calls, failures, lost equipment, and share other feedback
- Communicate with Lake Carriers Association to share information about science missions and inform commercial operators about the types of equipment being deployed

# Great Lakes Science Ships Community–Next Steps, Use of ASV/AUVs

**Action:** Create ad hoc committee on priorities for deployment and use of AUVs?

- [Inventory](#) of AUVs
- Data, information sharing, communications needs
- Accessible database / web interface (asset “registration”, operators, training opportunities, standard operating procedures, deployment guidance, other useful resources, interactive live/historical mission tracking, synthetic (virtual) AIS configuration for small assets)
- Resources to support (champions to lead action items, organizational capacity to sustain)





# Thanks you! Questions?

**Travis White** | Research Engineer, R/V Captain  
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**Jamey Anderson** | Assistant Director and  
Head of Marine Operations  
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