

CONNECT

COVE

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**COMMANDING THE FUTURE:
WHERE DEFENCE STRATEGY MEETS
EXPERTISE & MARINE INNOVATION**



ADVANCING INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP
IN OCEAN SUSTAINABILITY

Empowering Indigenous businesses to lead a sustainable blue economy, Samqwane'jk advances the UN Sustainable Development Goals through innovation, collaboration, and traditional knowledge.

Together, we're building a more resilient future for our ocean.

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ACCELERATING INNOVATION

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Canada's Gateway to Global Marine Innovation

Rockland Scientific and other marine tech companies are turning collaboration into competitive advantage at Canada's marine innovation hub.

Canada's marine economy is reaching global markets at an unprecedented pace—and at the centre of this momentum is COVE. Located on Halifax's working waterfront, COVE is a globally recognized hub where start-ups, multinationals, researchers, and defence agencies collaborate to turn marine technology ideas into solutions with international impact.

For Victoria-based Rockland Scientific, a leader in ocean turbulence measurement, joining COVE offered more than an East Coast presence. "It gave us a foothold in a nationally significant marine tech cluster and positioned us close to customers, collaborators, and a skilled workforce," says Candace Smith, Sales Manager for North America.

"The access to decision-makers and global partners is unparalleled," she adds. "COVE opens doors we wouldn't reach from a traditional office or lab."

The cluster spans over 500 organizations, connecting Canadian companies to a network of partners, investors, and decision-makers across continents.

COVE's strength lies in turning ideas into impact. Companies come here to move from prototype to product, supported by deep domain expertise, real-world testing, and direct access to buyers. This support spans the full lifecycle of marine innovation—from research-born ventures refining new technologies to defence

firms developing dual-use solutions—creating a clear pathway to market that goes far beyond providing workspace. Across sectors like marine autonomy, decarbonization, defence, and offshore energy, COVE reinforces this role through high-profile partnerships, strategic initiatives, and collaborative projects that demonstrate how Canadian marine innovations reach global markets.

Collaboration is at the heart of the COVE experience. Rockland works closely with Dalhousie University's Ocean Tracking Network Glider Group—also based at COVE—to co-develop high-resolution sensor data that informs climate research, naval operations, and fisheries management globally. Delegations from NATO, foreign governments, and international investors regularly visit, offering companies exposure and partnerships that are difficult to access elsewhere.

Talent is another critical advantage. Half of Rockland's Halifax team are alumni of NSCC's Ocean Technology program, while proximity to Dalhousie University, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) strengthens recruitment and R&D opportunities.

From local development to global deployment, COVE is the platform where business, science, and strategy intersect. It is the hub where marine industry leaders accelerate growth, expand markets, and shape the future of the marine economy—making Canada a destination for marine innovation worldwide. 🌐

EMPLOYEE PROFILE



Robyn Warrier: Dual-Use Disruptor

In the fast-paced world of marine technology and defence innovation, turning a breakthrough idea into operational capability takes more than creativity, it takes grit, strategy, and hands-on leadership. At COVE, few embody this more than Robyn Warrier.

As Program Manager for the NATO DIANA Accelerator Program at COVE, Robyn leads one of Canada's most strategic dual-use innovation initiatives. She helps Canadian companies translate cutting-edge technologies into deployable solutions with both civilian and defence applications.

COVE is one of NATO's official accelerator sites for the Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA), connecting innovators to international test centres, challenge calls, and global defence partners. The program offers tailored support to reduce time to market, align with NATO priorities, and validate solutions for operational use.

Robyn ensures these connections deliver more than exposure; she delivers results. A former dual-use tech founder, she understands the real-world pressure of building and scaling in complex environments. "That experience lets me meet founders where they are, and help move their technology from concept to capability," she says.

At COVE, Robyn brings this founder mindset to every interaction. She works directly with innovators to refine use cases, connect with buyers and procurement leaders, and secure partnerships that drive growth.

Her leadership extends beyond program delivery—she is a strategic connector, building a launchpad for dual-use success inside COVE's collaborative ecosystem.

Robyn draws on her background in business development, sales, and strategy to keep ventures focused, moving fast, and aligned with NATO's evolving needs.

Under her guidance, companies don't just pitch, they deliver. And through the DIANA Accelerator Programme at COVE, Canada's dual-use innovators are not only keeping pace—they're helping lead the future of global security and marine technology. 🌐

AXYS TECHNOLOGIES: Precision and Reliability in Ocean Monitoring

For over 50 years, AXYS Technologies has been a global leader in oceanographic and meteorological monitoring systems, now strengthening its presence at COVE. Since its founding in 1974 in Sidney, British Columbia, AXYS has delivered more than 250 monitoring stations in over 30 countries, serving marine, hydrological, and offshore wind sectors with high-performance environmental data solutions.



Central to AXYS's reputation is its commitment to accuracy and reliability. Their flagship FLiDAR WindSentinel™ floating LiDAR system for offshore wind assessment has undergone rigorous verification across multiple continents and months of data collection, consistently meeting or surpassing Carbon Trust Standards. This third-party validation highlights AXYS's industry-leading precision.

Beyond accuracy, AXYS designs rugged, renewable energy-powered buoys engineered for multi-year deployments in extreme weather, from hurricanes to typhoons, ensuring continuous data flow through redundant telemetry and sensor systems. These resilient platforms have proven dependable where others fail.

AXYS also offers comprehensive turnkey services including system design, commissioning, deployment, diagnostics, and training. Their AXYS-APS data platform delivers secure, real-time access to critical environmental information, reinforcing client confidence in both hardware and data integrity.

"Our clients operate where failure isn't an option," says Max Bottoni, Vice President of Operations. "Every system we build performs day after day, storm after storm, in the world's harshest conditions."

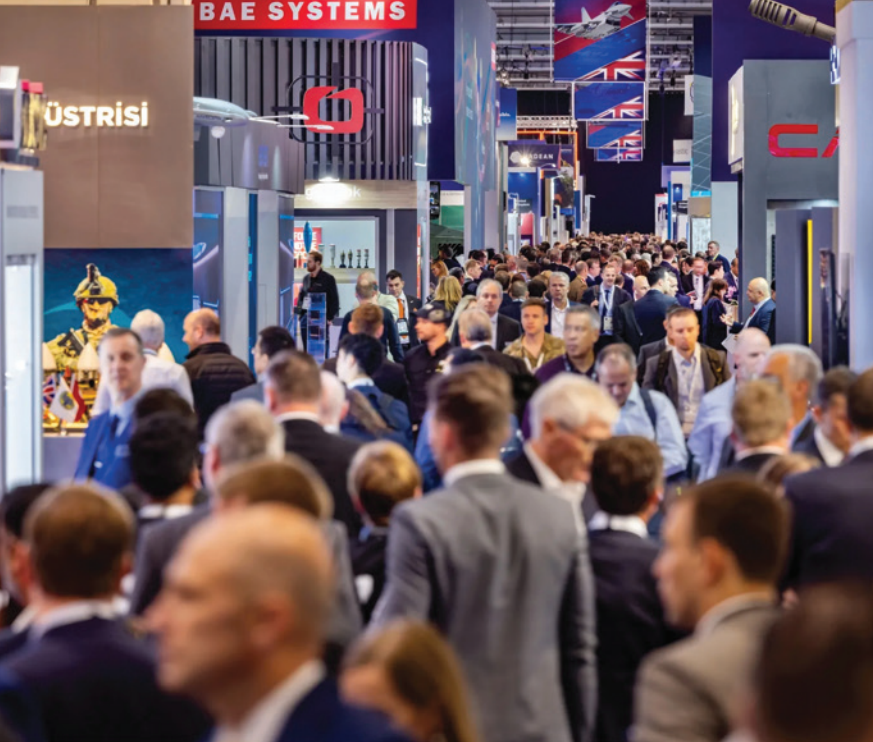
AXYS's diverse clients include military, environmental agencies, offshore wind developers, oil and gas operators, researchers, and coastal engineers—all relying on trusted data for critical decisions.

Being part of the COVE community connects AXYS to a vibrant marine innovation ecosystem with advanced infrastructure,

waterfront access, and testbeds that accelerate R&D and deployment. This strategic move enhances collaboration, talent access, and global partnerships aligned with AXYS's goals for innovation and market growth.

As climate change and renewable energy drive rising demand for reliable ocean data, AXYS combines decades of experience with innovation to support marine sectors worldwide, reinforcing Canada's leadership in dual-use marine technologies. 🌊





BRIDGING CONNECTIONS

Global Conferences Fuel Canada's Maritime Defence Breakthroughs

In a rapidly changing maritime world, defence conferences like DEFSEC Atlantic and DSEI are more than networking events—they are essential platforms where innovation meets operational need. These gatherings bring together innovators, operators, and decision-makers, offering companies the chance to showcase technologies that address today's naval challenges. From autonomous underwater vehicles and advanced surveillance systems to decarbonized propulsion and cyber-resilient platforms, conferences provide a stage for solutions that can move swiftly from concept to operational deployment.

For Canadian marine defence innovators, visibility at these forums is a significant strategic advantage. COVE supports this by providing hands-on testing, technical expertise, and direct connections to industry partners and global buyers. Through initiatives like the Naval Technology Innovation Challenges, companies will have the opportunity to develop and refine solutions for critical programs, including Arctic and Off-

shore Patrol Ships and the Joint Support Ships (AJISS). This year's winners highlight the breadth of Canadian innovation: MarineNav, in partnership with Voyis, will focus on innovating automated inspection and analysis of maritime infrastructure, while Precise Design Engineering Solutions, collaborating with Tronos and NSCC, will develop control regimes enabling sustainable additive manufacturing for ships. These projects promise to deliver tangible results and position Canadian companies prominently at international events, enhancing credibility and opening doors to global partnerships and contracts.

By combining hands-on development with targeted exposure at global conferences, COVE ensures Canadian marine defence innovation is poised to compete and thrive on the world stage. Through applied innovation, operational testing, and international visibility, Canadian companies are set to shape the future of naval technology while showcasing the nation's expertise and ingenuity in marine defence. 🔗

ACCELERATING DEFENCE INNOVATION: COVE's Role in the DIANA Program

How NATO's DIANA Program—and one Canadian accelerator—fast-track the future of security.

COVE is bringing real-world impact to NATO's DIANA Program, helping innovators transform promising ideas into deployable defence solutions. By offering hands-on guidance, technical mentorship, facilities, and connections to global defence networks, COVE ensures that technology doesn't just get developed—it reaches the right people, solves the right problems, and enters the right systems. Through this partnership, the program is reshaping how defence innovation happens, accelerating technologies that serve both commercial and military needs.

DIANA provides the structure—funding, NATO connections, and market access—while COVE delivers the substance, guiding innovators as they refine solutions, test technologies, and tackle operational priorities. Companies collaborate with experts, pilot solutions, and adapt approaches in response to real-world operational challenges.

Participants consistently highlight the difference.

"COVE has been dead on in understanding our needs...

They have supported us, made introductions, and found mentors. It's been phenomenal."

-Rodrigo Alvarez, Elysium Robotics

Legacy firms such as Materials Testing Inc. modernized weld inspections for shipbuilding, while Evitado Technologies and UK-based Honuworx discovered new defence applications through mentorship and cross-sector collaboration. Quebec's Reaction Dynamics accelerated hybrid rocket propulsion for rapid satellite launches, aligning technical capabilities with NATO priorities.

With Phase 2 of DIANA offering additional funding, dedicated advisors, and deeper NATO integration, companies refine solutions, secure strategic partnerships, and move toward real-world deployment.

By combining NATO's structured program with COVE's hands-on expertise, innovators across the Alliance are not just building faster, they're building smarter. Through this approach, DIANA is not only accelerating innovation, it is shaping the future of defence capabilities worldwide. 🌐

FROM PROTOTYPE TO OCEAN:

How COVE Turns Ideas into Innovation

A small autonomous underwater vehicle glides beneath the waves of Halifax Harbour, its sensors streaming real-time data back to the engineers on the dock. By mid-morning, the team spots a performance issue, tweaks the design, and prepares for another deployment by afternoon. This rhythm of rapid iteration is exactly what COVE's Marine Terminal was built to enable.

Perched on the edge of the North Atlantic, COVE isn't just a waterfront facility—it's a launchpad for marine innovation. Here, companies move from prototype to product with access to real-world ocean conditions, deep expertise, and connections to buyers around the globe.

"Water access is one of the biggest barriers in our industry," says Melanie Nadeau, CEO of COVE. "Here, it's built in, giving companies a faster, more cost-effective way to prove their technology works where it matters—in the ocean."

The terminal spans 870 metres of dock space, including two finger piers, with depths reaching 15 metres. Its 600 VAC wharf-side electrical stations, on-site workshops, and assembly areas create a vertically integrated environment where teams can iterate, test, and refine solutions multiple times a day. "We can test in the morning and adjust by the afternoon," explains Manuel Morgan, Senior Manager | Major Projects. "That kind of agility isn't common—but it's what gets products to market faster."

But COVE's value extends beyond infrastructure. Companies here gain a supportive pathway to commercialization. Through targeted communications, sector-specific campaigns, and high-profile partner-





“That’s how COVE delivers real impact—by turning ideas into innovation that matters.”

ships, COVE helps scale solutions in marine autonomy, decarbonization, defence, and offshore energy—turning ideas into products that can make a real impact.

It’s a model that draws global innovators. Defence contractors, offshore wind companies, and autonomous system developers all come to validate technologies in the North Atlantic while connecting with Canadian supply chains. “This facility was built to connect,” says Inja Ma, Chief Executive Officer at SEAMOR Marine. “COVE is where innovation, collaboration, and commercialization intersect—addressing defence, subsea energy, and climate resilience challenges at the same time.”

The site itself is expansive: 3.2 hectares of dedicated space, 51,000 m² of waterfront facilities, and more than 4,600 m² of office and workshop space. Engineers can launch and retrieve equipment multiple times per day, conduct field trials without leaving the site, and work alongside partners—reducing risk, lowering costs, and accelerating sustainable marine solutions.

From clean maritime technology to Arctic-connected operations, COVE is more than a dock—it’s a strategic enabler. “We help companies move faster, reduce risk, and bring market-ready solutions to life,” says Nadeau. “That’s how COVE delivers real impact—by turning ideas into innovation that matters.” 🌊

IRIDIUM SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS: Vital for Marine Innovation

Article provided by Paul E. Hill, Business Development Manager, Satellite IoT, Maxtena, Inc.



L-Band, the radio frequency range between 1-2 GHz, was crucial to developing key technologies in the 1980s and 1990s. Its resilient signal resists rain fade and can penetrate buildings and small antennas, making it ideal for global navigation systems like global positioning systems (GPS) and global navigation satellite systems (GNSS). These systems underpin everything from aviation and internet to terrestrial communications and banking. Beyond navigation, L-Band enabled satellite constellations such as Iridium's low Earth orbit (LEO) and Inmarsat's geostationary (now ViaSat) networks, which have provided decades of real-time global connectivity and maritime safety.

Despite the rise of mega constellations like Starlink, which operate in Ku and Ka bands, L-Band networks like Iridium remain vital. Iridium's unique pole-to-pole coverage is unmatched, providing ubiquitous, real-time global reach. Mega constellations focus on high-density satellites in inclined orbits over populated areas to reduce latency and increase throughput, targeting internet access rather than mission-critical communications. Iridium's origins are military-focused, emphasizing reliability and coverage over entertainment. It continues to innovate by shrinking device size, weight, and power consumption.

Iridium's current strength lies in the Internet of Things (IoT), with IoT devices activated on its network outnumbering voice subscriptions three to one. For over 20 years, Iridium has supported global narrow-band ocean observation through programs like the

Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) and ARGO, transmitting vital meteorological and oceanographic data. Its new CERTUS mid-band and broadband terminals provide International Maritime Organization (IMO)-regulated Global Marine Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) services, enhancing maritime communication and safety.

The constellation also plays a critical role in COSPAS-SARSAT's Search and Rescue (SAR) system, improving government marine rescue operations through integrated dual-use beacons, voice services, and automatic identification system (AIS) data delivery. Robotics developers were early adopters of Iridium's network, benefiting from its low power needs and persistent connectivity to focus on propulsion, sensors, and cost reduction—making it a leader in marine technology integration.

Since 1998, Iridium has been indispensable to the Department of National Defence and allied forces, delivering real-time logistics and battle-field communications worldwide. This demanding use drives ongoing efforts to strengthen network redundancy and backbone reliability—failure is not an option. Although new satellite systems provide broadband internet access, Iridium remains a critical backup, especially in maritime shipping during heavy weather, precipitation, or unexpected network outages.

Iridium offers a range of IoT satellite services varying in speed, power consumption, and antenna size—from low-speed Symmetrical Packet Data (SBD, RUDICS) to high-speed CERTUS broadband services. This versatility allows for diverse applications across industries.

The future lies in converging terrestrial cellular and satellite networks. Hybrid transceiver modules combining satellite, GNSS, LTE, and sensors are emerging, lowering costs and broadening adoption. Direct-to-Device connectivity, Non-Terrestrial Networks, and AI-driven software-defined wide area networks (WAN) represent the next wave of seamless global communication—areas where Iridium is well-positioned.

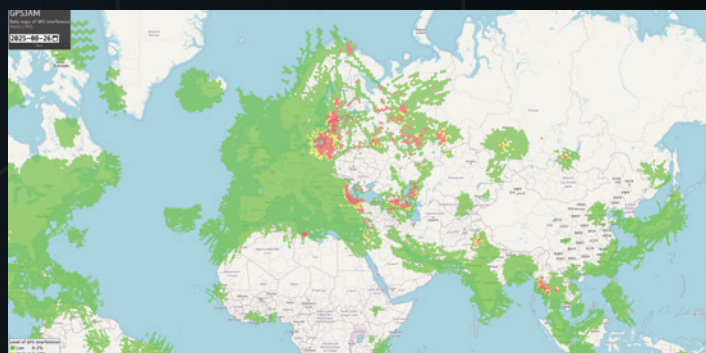
Iridium's new Satellite Timing and Location (STL) service addresses the growing threat of GPS jamming and denial by providing assured position, timing, and navigation even in contested environments. This innovation underscores Iridium's role as the premium LEO satellite provider, continually evolving to meet modern IoT and communication demands with resilient, adaptive technologies. 🌐



An Iridium-equipped - renewable-energy variable buoyancy profiling float. Photo Credit: Seatrec Inc



An Iridium-equipped Unmanned Surface Vessel. Photo Credit: Open Ocean Robotics



Courtesy GPSJam.org



INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

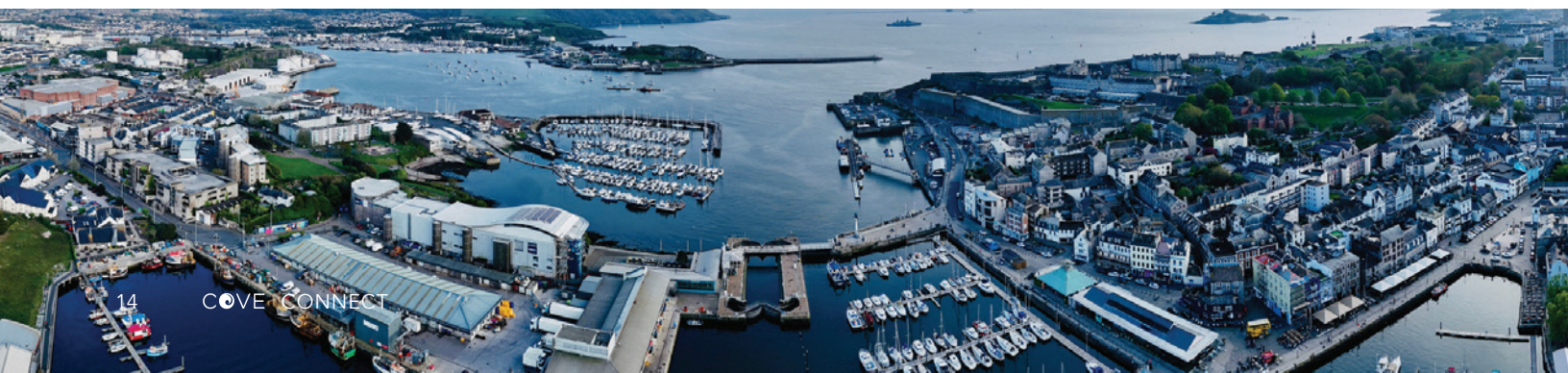
Canada and the UK are Redefining Marine Innovation

A strategic look at how aligned policy, funding, and testbeds are accelerating innovation.

As climate change, security needs, and economic shifts reshape the marine domain, Canada and the United Kingdom (UK) are advancing dual-use marine technologies serving both defence and commercial sectors. While their goals align, their innovation approaches differ, making collaboration essential to accelerate technology development and deployment.

Bilateral Momentum and Strategic Context

Recent developments highlight growing UK–Canada partnerships in advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence (AI), and critical infrastructure. These frameworks underpin cooperation in marine innovation, focusing on dual-use technologies like autonomous vessels, quantum communications, and maritime domain awareness sensors.



Divergent Innovation Models

Canada's strategy emphasizes mission-driven innovation through national initiatives like Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's Global Innovation Clusters. These regional hubs integrate research, commercialization, and export readiness. A stand-out is COVE, a large dockside facility hosting start-ups, scale-ups, multinationals, and defence stakeholders. COVE provides marine testing infrastructure, rapid prototyping labs, collaboration spaces, and acts as a NATO DIANA accelerator site, linking Canadian companies to transatlantic markets.

In contrast, the UK's ecosystem is more distributed. Entities such as the Defence and Security Accelerator, Innovate UK, and the Catapult network provide targeted support. However, companies often face a fragmented journey from lab to sea, struggling to bridge the "valley of deployment" due to limited access to physical demonstration environments and end-user engagement.

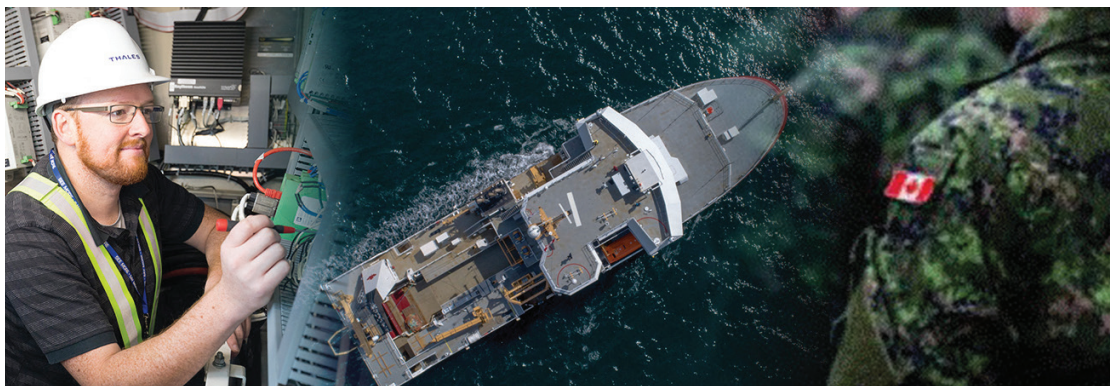
Funding and Functional Access

Canada's innovation ecosystem relies heavily on non-dilutive government funding supplemented by infrastructure, procurement connections, and partner-driven challenges with organizations like the Royal Canadian Navy and Thales Canada. This layered approach enables companies to move swiftly from testing to operational deployment.

The UK offers robust early-stage funding through defence innovation and maritime R&D programs. Yet, without centralized marine testbeds akin to COVE, scaling and certification remain challenging. Facilities such as Smart Sound Plymouth show promise, but Canada's focus on real-world readiness highlights the need for funding to be matched with practical access.

COVE's Unique Ecosystem

COVE's strength lies in its ecosystem mindset. Small and medium businesses co-exist alongside prime contractors and researchers, fostering hands-on testing and collaboration with a focus on acceleration. As the divide between civilian and defence tech narrows—through autonomous vessels, quantum communication, and underwater robotics—innovation must be fast, trusted, and validated in complex, real-world conditions. COVE provides a realistic, high-complexity environment that mirrors operational demands—going beyond a simple testbed or "sandbox" to deliver meaningful, validated innovation.



UK innovators increasingly value this model. With growing transatlantic interest, Canadian test sites have become prime locations for validating technologies under NATO-aligned scenarios. Conversely, greater UK–Canada alignment could allow UK sites to provide cold-weather, deep-sea, or NATO operational environments beneficial to Canadian firms.

Opportunities for Collaboration

To strengthen joint marine leadership, three immediate opportunities stand out:

Bilateral Testbed Access

Formal agreements to enable technology validation across multiple climates and domains.

Transatlantic Challenge Funding

Joint funding to encourage co-development and market expansion across NATO countries.

Regulatory Alignment

Streamlining certification and procurement to ease market entry and reduce bureaucratic barriers.

Navigating the Future Together

Canada offers an integrated pipeline from funding to operational testing, anchored by COVE’s world-class infrastructure and NATO ties. The UK brings expertise in naval operations, defence networks, and advanced R&D. Closer alignment of funding, infrastructure, and regulation will enhance both countries’ ability to deliver cutting-edge dual-use marine technologies efficiently.

In a complex maritime environment, this partnership supports economic growth, environmental stewardship, and allied security. The Atlantic Ocean serves as a natural laboratory and shared opportunity for Canada and the UK to lead the future of marine innovation. 🌐



Explore how COVE powers transatlantic innovation
at coveocean.com.



COMMERCIALIZATION

Accelerating Commercialization Through Real-World Testing and Industry Integration

Bridging the gap between innovation and industry, COVE helps marine technology companies turn prototypes into deployable solutions.

In the lab, a product may work—but the ocean is unpredictable. To succeed, companies must prove performance under real-world conditions, meet regulatory standards, and align with global buyer expectations. COVE's engineers and marine technicians provide hands-on support from design refinement to operational readiness. Advanced sensors, uncrewed surface vehicles, and subsea robotics all benefit from this guidance, ensuring technologies are functional, reliable, and market-ready.



Real-World Testing

COVE's Stella Maris Testing Solution delivers controlled yet realistic testing environments. Combining lab simulation, sensor calibration, and full-scale ocean trials, Stella Maris accelerates development, produces the data needed for certification, and reduces deployment risk. Companies can validate their systems under conditions that mirror real operational environments—from rough seas to complex subsea operations.



An Ecosystem of Collaboration

COVE connects participants with international firms, service providers, research institutions, and end users. Programs like the Naval Technology Innovation Challenges provide exposure to operational requirements and industry partners, creating opportunities for strategic collaboration. Many participants have leveraged this ecosystem to secure pilot projects, attract investment, and accelerate market entry.



Pathways to Market

Beyond testing, COVE facilitates introductions to buyers across defence, transportation, offshore energy, and environmental sectors. Demonstrations, industry events, and networking opportunities give companies the visibility they need to secure contracts, funding, and partnerships.

"Commercializing marine technology takes more than a working product—it takes the right support system," says COVE CEO Melanie Nadeau. With engineering guidance, real-world validation through Stella Maris, and strategic connections via the Naval Technology Innovation Challenges, COVE ensures innovations are not just developed—they're proven, scaled, and ready to compete globally. 🌐



Reaction Dynamics and Quebec Government Officials at Series A Funding Announcement

COVE COMMUNITY NEWS

Reaction Dynamics Raises CAD \$14M in Series A, Reaches CAD \$38M in Total Funding

Part of the 2025 DIANA cohort at COVE, Quebec-based Reaction Dynamics (RDX) is advancing Canada's space and defence innovation with a recent CAD 14 million Series A funding round—bringing its total raised to CAD 38 million. RDX is developing hybrid rocket engines that use non-toxic, shelf-stable solid fuel pellets and liquid oxidizers, offering a safer and simpler alternative to traditional propulsion systems. Its RE-102 engine powers the Aurora-1 sub-orbital launcher, with the larger Aurora-8 using 10 upgraded RE-202B engines. A demonstration flight of Aurora-1 is scheduled for late 2025 in Australia, with an orbital mission involving a CSA payload aboard a SpaceX flight expected in 2026 or 2027.

RDX is also building a compact orbital transfer vehicle (Micro OTV) and has partnered with Galaxia Mission Systems to launch Canadian satellites on domestically built rockets—the first contract of its kind. The company has signed an MOU with Maritime Launch Services to operate out of Spaceport Nova Scotia and continues to grow.

Source: <https://canadiandefencereview.com/reaction-dynamics-raises-cad-14m-in-series-a-reaches-cad-38m-in-total-funding>

\$190M Raised: Canada's Top 20 Moonshot Ventures™ of 2025 Unveiled After Closed-Door NACO Showcase

Open Ocean Robotics, a COVE resident company, has been recognized as one of Canada's Top 20 Moonshot Ventures™ of 2025 as revealed during a recent National Angel Capital Organization (NACO) showcase. Selected from over 5,000 start-ups, the award highlights companies advancing radical solutions across sectors. Open Ocean Robotics was celebrated for its zero-emission, solar-powered USVs—particularly the DataXplorer™—and its AI-driven XplorerView™ platform, which supports marine monitoring for applications such as combating illegal fishing, protecting marine mammals, and enhancing maritime security.

This prestigious inclusion—part of a cohort that has collectively raised over CAD 190 million—underscores the company's global impact in sustainable ocean intelligence. As one of Canada's leading moonshot ventures, Open Ocean Robotics exemplifies how emerging ocean-tech firms are leveraging autonomy and AI to meet pressing environmental and security challenges at sea.

Source: <https://financialpost.com/globe-newswire/190m-raised-canadas-top-20-moonshot-ventures-of-2025-unveiled-after-closed-door-naco-showcase>



Open Ocean Robotics CEO Julie Angus at National Angel Capital Organization Showcase



Prime Minister Mark Carney Touring COVE's Facilities

Carney Unveils Bold Drone Defence Vision as Historic Submarine Innovator Looks On

International Submarine Engineering Ltd. (ISE), a COVE resident company, was spotlighted during Prime Minister Mark Carney's March 26, 2025, announcement in Halifax, where he unveiled a bold drone and unmanned vehicle defence strategy to bolster Canada's sovereignty. With half a century of expertise in autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs), remote-operated vehicles (ROVs), and subsea robotics, ISE exemplifies homegrown innovation in subsea technology—many of their platforms remain integral to the Royal Canadian Navy. Their presence at COVE underscored the government's intent to scale domestic manufacturing and defence tech using existing national strengths.

Prime Minister Carney's strategic vision emphasizes aquatic and airborne unmanned systems to protect the Arctic, undersea infrastructure, and national borders, while enhancing allied operations. The plan includes significant investments in submarines, icebreakers, Coast Guard upgrades, recruitment enhancements, and streamlined procurement. Central to this vision is a commitment to Canadian industry—favoring domestic materials, supply chains, and manufacturing—to meet NATO defence spending goals by 2030. ISE's legacy and continued work in subsea autonomy position it as a cornerstone of this emerging defence ecosystem. 🌐

Source: <https://techcouver.com/2025/03/26/mark-carney-drone-defence-vision-international-submarine-engineering/>



TALENT DEVELOPMENT

ATLANTIC AMBITION:

Nova Scotia's Offshore Wind Future

How Nova Scotia is shaping big change in the global offshore energy sector, powered by talent, technology, and collaboration.

Nova Scotia's rugged coastline has long shaped its identity—and now it's defining the province's role in the global clean-energy transition. With consistent offshore winds, deep-water ports, and a long-standing marine economy, Nova Scotia is emerging as a hub for offshore wind innovation.

But location isn't enough. Advancing offshore wind requires skilled talent, cutting-edge innovation, and strategic collaboration. That's where COVE plays a vital role.

The WindWest Initiative highlights Nova Scotia's ambition to maximize offshore wind potential. Alongside policy frameworks, community engagement, and First Nations involvement, it reflects the province's careful, inclusive approach to building a sustainable, globally connected sector.

Nova Scotia offers steady wind speeds, deep-water harbours, and strong marine-sector capabilities in shipbuilding, subsea technology, and marine research—advantages that are now being leveraged to drive offshore wind forward.

COVE: A CATALYST FOR GROWTH

COVE helps turn potential into progress. By developing the people, technologies, and partnerships that drive offshore wind, COVE ensures Nova Scotia can scale the sector responsibly and efficiently.

Key areas of focus include:



Workforce Readiness

Training programs, internships, and academic partnerships equip the next generation of marine professionals with hands-on experience and technical expertise.



Innovation Acceleration

COVE supports companies in developing and testing technologies such as autonomous vessels, remote sensors, and smart systems that improve safety, reduce costs, and limit environmental impact.



Global Collaboration

By connecting with leading offshore wind markets, such as the UK, COVE brings international expertise into Nova Scotia's innovation ecosystem.

Building a Collaborative Future

Offshore wind in Nova Scotia goes far beyond turbines. With COVE's support, the province is shaping a collaborative, inclusive supply chain that spans fabrication, environmental monitoring, marine services, logistics, and subsea innovation.

The combination of initiatives like WindWest, strong policy frameworks, and active community and industry partnerships is creating a sector that is innovative, sustainable, and globally connected.

As the world pivots to clean energy, Nova Scotia is proving that offshore wind isn't just an opportunity—it's a platform for leadership. With COVE at the helm, the ocean isn't just a resource—it's where the future is being built. 🌊

INNOVATION WITHOUT BORDERS:

UK Marine Technology Accelerates in Canada

Strategic partnerships, real-world testing, and new markets drive international growth.

When Verlume's subsea batteries hit Canadian waters, it wasn't just a test deployment—it was a statement. The UK company, part of the Ocean ScaleUp Accelerator, is helping redefine what's possible in marine technology, bridging innovation between the UK and Canada.

The ten-month programme, delivered by Innovate UK as part of the Global Incubator Programme and hosted at COVE, is designed to give high-potential UK marine tech businesses a foothold in North America. Participants gain access to Canadian testbeds, investors, and commercialization partners across five marine-focused areas: aquaculture and fisheries, sustainable offshore energy, climate solutions, defence and security, and transportation.

This year's cohort of six companies exemplifies the diversity of marine innovation. Marble is advancing its surveillance drones through government and research partnerships. Walker Subsea is establishing a Nova

Scotia office and hiring local talent. Samudra Oceans is moving forward with a \$6–7M seaweed farming pilot, while BioBright pursues port-based carbon capture testing in Newfoundland. Autonomass is developing a regional pilot with Canadian collaborators, and Verlume has also signed a Canadian partnership with Valor Ocean Technologies.

Visibility is another key asset. The program offers opportunities to shine at high-profile events, including COVE Demo Day, the H2O Conference, and the invite-only Pitch+Roll investor showcase—creating pathways to partnerships, funding, and global market entry.

With international collaboration and commercialization at its heart, the Ocean ScaleUp Accelerator is more than an accelerator—it's a launchpad. By connecting UK innovators to Canada's growing marine economy, it's helping companies transform bold ideas into real-world impact, one innovation at a time. ●



2025 Ocean ScaleUp Accelerator Cohort

Meet the six UK companies shaping the future of the marine sector



AUTONOMASS | Autonomous Vessel Operations

Develops MASS-WILL, an AI-driven system that improves vessel efficiency, reduces emissions, and centralizes fleet oversight through its MASS Operation Center.



BioBright | Port-Based Carbon Capture

Combats maritime emissions using containerized algae cultivation systems that monitor CO₂, pollutants, and algae performance in real time.



Marble | Maritime Surveillance Drones

Builds fast, lightweight drones equipped with computer vision to support fisheries enforcement, anti-piracy, and offshore infrastructure monitoring.



Samudra Oceans Ltd | Scalable Seaweed Farming

Provides software, sensors, and machine learning tools to help seaweed farms scale and tap into blue carbon credit markets.



Verlume | Subsea Energy Systems

Offers intelligent subsea batteries and energy storage to power remote operations with reduced costs and emissions.



Walker Subsea Engineering Ltd | Deepwater Powertrain Solutions

Designs robust underwater batteries and motors for subsea construction, propulsion, and power generation at depths up to 1,000 metres.



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