



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Brian Whitney, President
Maine Technology Institute
207-582-4790
bwhitney@mainetechnology.org

**Maine Technology Institute Announces the First Round of Alliance for
Maine's Marine Economy Capital Grants Program
Supporting Growth in Maine's Traditional Fisheries,
Aquaculture and Seafood-Related Companies and Institutions**

Brunswick, ME – The Maine Technology Institute (MTI), in partnership with the Alliance for Maine's Marine Economy, has released today a new request for proposals (RFP) for a first round of awards from the Marine Economy Capital Grants Program (MECG). Businesses, private, public and non-profit entities are invited to apply. The Program is financed by the Marine Economy and Jobs bond that MTI manages on behalf of the State of Maine.

Awards must be used for capital and infrastructure expenditures, such as equipment and facilities renovation in Maine's Marine Economy. The proposed project should lead to the generation or retention of high quality jobs in Maine. The award criteria also encourage innovative approaches to growth within Maine's fisheries, aquaculture and seafood-related businesses.

Proposals will be reviewed competitively according to five criteria: economic impact, industry-identified need and/or support, project scope and approach to innovation, project team and resources, and quality of budget and finances. A request for proposals has been released on the MTI website at www.mainetechnology.org/mb along with information about the program and

application process. The deadline to submit proposals to MTI for this first round of awards is September 15, 2017.

MTI and members of the Alliance will conduct workshops and webinars for interested applicants covering the application process and the review criteria, process, and timeline. Anyone interested in direct notification of the workshops and webinars can sign up for schedule information at info@mainetechnology.org.

MTI is a publicly financed, private, nonprofit organization created by the Legislature in 1999 to stimulate research and development activity leading to the commercialization of new products, processes and services in the state's seven targeted technology sectors. MTI programs are either loans, equity investments, or grants designed to enhance the competitive position of those sectors and increase the likelihood that one or more of these sectors will support clusters of industrial activity and create quality jobs across Maine.

The Alliance for Maine's Marine Economy is a network of companies, organizations and individuals dedicated to the growth of a vibrant marine economy for Maine. The mission is to ensure that Maine seafood, fishing and aquaculture industries and the natural and innovation ecosystems on which they depend are health and benefit Maine people. More information on the Alliance and its members is available at <https://umaine.edu/alliance/> or contact co-leads Dr. Heather Leslie at heather.leslie@maine.edu or 207 350-2713, or Paul Anderson at panderson@maine.edu or 207 581-1435.

For information on the Marine Capital Grants Program, deadlines and the application processes, and other MTI programs, visit the Maine Technology Institute at www.mainetechnology.org.

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