

Press Release

The Oil Industry together with NTNU into Arctic Research

The Faculty of Engineering Science and Technology (NTNU) hosts one of the new Centres for Research-based Innovation (SFI) - SAMCoT - in close collaboration with other prominent research institutions (i.e SINTEF, UNIS, etc).

SAMCoT, Sustainable Arctic Marine and Coastal Technology, will provide impact in offering solutions to the technical challenges associated with Arctic developments, as a basis for the innovation that will be necessary to operate in this region. The Centre's personnel will be a resource for the industry and the society, and students (at all levels of their education) will become the next generation of engineers and scientists who will ensure that sustainability be implemented in all major development projects in the Arctic.

Because of the great commercial and environmental relevance of the region, it is of vital importance to gain this fundamental knowledge about the physical environment in the Arctic region, particularly for its ice-covered seas. This is not the first participation of NTNU as a key international contributor to Arctic research. The Norwegian Research Council (NRC) has financially supported their research efforts in the Arctic for the past 15 years. The successes achieved in this research area have set the bases of this new and essential financial collaboration of the NRC, this time in the form of a SFI.

Stress on the environment from a potentially growing energy use is set to rise. Without doubt, the energy resources in Arctic regions will be developed. An important goal will be to exploit the resources offered by the Barents Sea as a new European energy province and to do that in accordance with the principles of sustainable development that have successfully been used in the North Sea. As a nation being responsible for huge areas of the Arctic region, including the Svalbard Shelf, Norway is set to play a significant role in Arctic research also in the field of technology.

SAMCoT gathers all the key elements to support this role. SAMCoT's industrial partners (Aker Solutions, Barlindhaug Consult, Det Norske Veritas, Kongsberg Maritime, Multiconsult, Shell, Statoil and Total) will constitute an Innovation Committee to follow the research progress and to continuously monitor the flow of knowledge and the implementation into needed innovative. Its responsibility will be to identify industrial and societal needs to be met by the research, and to propose specific ways of implementing the results for the added value of the Industry Partners.

October 7th marks the start of SAMCoT at an event where key players in Arctic Research both at National and International level meet as part of this new SFI.

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