

Business Challenge



for public research organisations

Sanford Ltd processes 1.5 million mussels per day. Processing that many molluscs presents all sorts of challenges. They are currently seeking novel proposals for:

High-speed Automated Processing Technologies

Pitch your ideas directly to Industry and innovation funders at the workshop associated with the AquacultureNZ conference.

KEY CHALLENGES:

- #1 Non-invasive, High Speed Method Measuring Mussel Weight
- #2 Better Method To Remove All Mussel Beards
- #3 Identifying A Commercially Viable Use For Mussel Shells
- #4 Identifying A Commercially Viable Use For Old Mussel Ropes
- #5 Automated Notification Of Failed Navigation Lights

\$5,000 development funding awarded to the best idea presented at the AquacultureNZ Workshop 22nd Oct.

See overleaf for details...



KiwiNet is proudly supporting a workshop stream on Wednesday 22 October, part of the AquacultureNZ Conference. Sanford Ltd has proposed five challenges to the research community, and we are inviting you to attend the workshop and present your solutions to an expert commercialisation panel. Check www.kiwinet.org.nz for more details of the day.

CHALLENGE #1 Non-invasive, high speed measuring mussel weight

Currently mussels are graded via the mussel shell width, which in-turn estimates the mussel weight. This is important as each mussel is sorted and then blanched based on their predicted weight. Inaccuracies means many mussels are being under or over blanched. Industry needs a much more accurate method of predicting mussel weight – this is a high value challenge, that could have global applications.

CHALLENGE #2 Better method to remove all mussel beards

Currently industry uses a machine called a Debysser to remove mussel beards. These machines are only 75% efficient in this task. Can the efficiency be improved, closer to 100%? Can you provide an alternative solution?

CHALLENGE #3 Identifying a commercially viable use for mussel shells

After processing, there is a considerable number of discarded mussel shells left as a valuable resource. The seafood industry is keen to identify a commercially viable application for these left over mussel shells.

CHALLENGE #4 Identifying a commercially viable use for old mussel ropes

A similar situation to the mussel shells, old mussel rope embedded with ocean borne organic matter is constantly being removed as waste. The industry is eager to find a commercially viable opportunity utilising this currently discarded resource.

CHALLENGE #5 Automated notification of failed navigation lights

There is a need to improve the monitoring of marine navigations lights, critical for worker safety. Navigation lights need to be constantly checked by hand. Can there be a retrofit innovation to autonomously signal when a bulb fails? This could have broad applications into a variety of marine situations.



\$5,000 FUNDING FOR BEST IDEA

CONDITIONS APPLY...

KiwiNet and Sanford have organised for the top idea from a public research organisation to be awarded funds dedicated for proof of concept design and development. KiwiNet will also provide the top ideas for each challenge with 5 hours of analyst time to gather market information – to help with Business plans or PreSeed applications. This award is open to Publicly Funded Research Organisations.

FUNDING FOR YOUR SOLUTIONS IS AVAILABLE!

Kiwi Innovation Network is keen to hear your proposals to solve these challenges, and we are willing to help support good ideas from research organisations to prepare prototypes and prove technologies. [Seafood Innovation](#) also supports this initiative and are keen to discuss where they can provide support.

ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

For more information about each challenge visit www.kiwinet.org.nz, or email your expression of interest & contact details to KiwiNet: admin@kiwinet.org.nz by 2nd October and we'll be in touch with more details. **Please remember it is critical that at least one member of the team attends the workshop in Nelson 22nd October.**