

Collaborative Bathymetry in Arviat, NU

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Less than 20% of the World's oceans are charted. Achieving global chart coverage remains a major challenge across the scientific community. Various technological advancements will help face this challenge, namely Autonomous Surface Vehicles (ASV), Satellite-Derived Bathymetry (SDB), and Crowd-Sourced Bathymetry (CSB).

The use of CSB has been recognized by the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) as a "Strategic Orientation" over the coming years. CSB can be a rather effective means of data collection in remote regions such as the Canadian Arctic near populated areas.

Over the past summers, M2Ocean has been participating in a joint project with the Aqqiumavvik Society of Arviat, NU to collect bathymetric data in areas of interest near the community.

The system used for data collection, HydroBlock™, developed by CIDCO (www.cidco.ca) in Rimouski, QC was provided to the Society by M2Ocean. The HydroBlock is a simple easy to use system that can be installed to any vessel of opportunity, in this case, a fishing/hunting boat.

The aim of this on going collaboration is to enable non-expert users to operate a hydrographic data collection platform and develop capacity for survey planning and data processing.

This presentation will describe the measurable success of the project, the interest demonstrated by the community members, and the potential use of the collected data.



Figure 1: CSB Crew (Captain and "Young Hunters")