

November 3, 2009

Dr. Shawn Kenny named as Wood Group Chair of Arctic Engineering at Memorial University of Newfoundland

Shawn Kenny, Ph.D., P.Eng., has been selected for the Wood Group Chair of Arctic and Cold Region Engineering at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Newfoundland. The chair is sponsored by Wood Group, the international energy services company.

Announced in January, the industrial research chair is associated with Memorial University's Ocean Engineering Research Centre in the Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science and will benefit both undergraduate and post-graduate engineering students. With exploration in the Arctic still in its infancy, Wood Group's objective is to develop cutting-edge technology for use in Arctic and cold regions for the oil & gas industry. Through the chair position, research will be conducted on pipeline design, construction and operations for northern regions. Environmental considerations will be a key aspect of both the research and any resulting solutions. Wood Group is investing \$500,000 to sponsor the chair over a five-year period in collaboration with Memorial University.

"We are pleased to have found such a qualified applicant to fill the new Wood Group chair," said Mike Straughen, Group director and chief executive of Wood Group's Engineering activities. "A number of our engineering businesses have conducted projects or research in subsea and pipeline engineering in arctic and harsh environments. We're looking forward to the innovation that will result from this partnership."

With a background in academia, research & development, and the oil & gas industry, Dr. Kenny brings two decades of professional experience to his position. He specializes in offshore pipelines in ice environments, strain-based design of pipeline systems, ice mechanics and ice/structure interaction. Dr. Kenny has been involved with engineering studies for offshore pipeline projects located in the Beaufort, Caspian and Labrador Seas, Grand Banks, the Gulf of Mexico, Scotian Shelf and offshore Sakhalin Island. In addition to his professorial responsibilities, he serves as a chair and member of the Canadian Standards Association Z-662 oil and gas pipeline systems standards committee and as the associate editor of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) *Journal of Pressure Vessel Technology*.

"This partnership between Memorial University and Wood Group will advance our expertise and abilities in the study of Arctic and cold region engineering. This initiative builds on Memorial University's world-class status in the field of ocean engineering, especially as it relates to the oil & gas industry. I am delighted by Dr. Kenny's appointment and wish him well with his research," said Dr. Christopher W. Loomis, president and vice-chancellor pro tempore at Memorial University.

"We are pleased to see this level of collaboration between industry and academic researchers," said Glenn Janes, CEO of the Research & Development Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador. "As a Crown corporation that supports R&D, we look forward to exploring opportunities to build R&D capacity in this priority area."