



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **First Ever Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) Project in Aquaculture Awarded to NAFC Marine Centre and Hjaltland Seafarms**

NAFC Marine Centre and Hjaltland Seafarms have been awarded the first ever Aquaculture Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) Project.

The 18 month project will investigate a range of commercial farmed salmon diets specifically formulated for Shetland waters to identify a diet containing ingredients from the most sustainable resources which is the most digestible: giving the best feed conversion rates and flesh quality.

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships are Government funded projects and enable UK businesses to benefit from the wide range of expertise available in the UK's further education institutions, higher education institutions and private and public sector research organisations and institutes.

NAFC Marine Centre Development Manager Carol Phillips said: *"We are delighted to have won this opportunity to work closely with a local company on meaningful, practical research. The results of this project will ensure that our industry is producing high quality product from the very best ingredients."*

Managing director of Hjaltland Seafarms, Michael Stark said: *"We are delighted to have the opportunity to work with the NAFC Marine Centre on this project. The industry continues to develop at a fast pace with significant advances in areas such as farming equipment and feed technology - all of which makes it easier for us to grow the very best quality fish."*

*We very much look forward to the outcome of this particular research which will ensure that the entire Shetland salmon farming industry is proactive in the use of sustainable production methods.*

*We must make sure that we have all the right ingredients in place to satisfy our discerning customer demands for a premium product in what is a very competitive marketplace."*

The partnership is currently recruiting for a recently qualified graduate to co-ordinate and carry out the data collection, sample analysis and data interpretation for the project. The successful candidate will work on the project alongside staff from both NAFC Marine Centre and Hjaltland Seafarms and will also work towards an NVQ level 4 in Management. Further information and application details can be obtained from NAFC Marine Centre.



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**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

*In view of the increasing range and scope of the work being undertaken by NAFC, the decision was taken in September 2005 to change the institute's name from the North Atlantic Fisheries College to the NAFC Marine Centre.*

*Please note our correct title is now 'NAFC Marine Centre'. The 'NAFC' in our title identifies us with, and provides continuity from, our previous name – North Atlantic Fisheries College. In conversation 'NAFC' should be spelt out as 'N-A-F-C'. Similarly, we are no longer just a 'college', but a marine centre - providing education, research and commercial services to the marine sector.*