

# Researching for growth

## Seafood Innovations Ltd

### ► Further R&D funding available

Seafood Innovations Ltd has new funding available for innovative research projects and has recently announced its latest major Request for Proposals to seafood industry stakeholders and relevant research organisations.

This is a reminder to all parties that this RFP closes on Wednesday 10 October, with final decisions due to be confirmed by the SIL Board in early December. More information and a copy of the RFP template are available on [www.seafoodinnovations.co.nz](http://www.seafoodinnovations.co.nz).

### Government Research Funding

The Foundation for Research Science and Technology, the government's main R&D funding agency, recently announced the results of a major funding round, with both Crop & Food Research and NIWA receiving significant funding for seafood related research projects.

To find out more about the Crop & Food Research project into innovative fishing technologies go to [http://www.frst.govt.nz/news/2007/Novel\\_Fish\\_Jul07.cfm](http://www.frst.govt.nz/news/2007/Novel_Fish_Jul07.cfm).

For more information on the NIWA research project focusing on breeding paua, kingfish and groper see [http://www.frst.govt.nz/news/2007/Northland\\_Research\\_jul07.cfm](http://www.frst.govt.nz/news/2007/Northland_Research_jul07.cfm).

It is important to note that the government considers the willingness of industry to co-fund research as an important factor in deciding where to invest its money through FRST. The significant investment by the industry into SIL projects to date is seen by FRST as a positive sign of the industry's commitment to research and development, and adds weight to the argument for greater government investment.

### Progress to date

Seafood Innovations Ltd has now been funding research and development projects for over two years. During that time the total value of projects supported has exceeded \$14 million and have covered a wide range of species, including hoki, mackerel, squid, mussels, oysters, surf clams, paua, rock lobster, horse mussels, salmon and potential new finfish species. The types of research have included:

- finding out more about the fundamental makeup of animals we harvest
- new farming, harvesting and handling systems
- storage technologies for improved product quality
- technologies for processing automation
- investigation of high value extracts from various 'waste' streams

SIL has also provided support for more generic projects such as an initial investigation into energy efficiency issues for the inshore trawl fishery, in conjunction with NZ Seafood Industry Council. SIL sees the potential for more of these types of projects, with broader industry benefits, in the future.

### Contact Us

We encourage you to contact us to discuss potential R&D projects at any time. We are happy to provide advice on shaping your research proposals. It may also be possible to fund innovative projects outside of the two major annual funding rounds if circumstances warrant it and if funding is available.

For more information please contact:

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