Speaking of Engineering...

Have you ever wondered…

How engineering can help make fish harvesting safer?

Redesigning fishing vessels for today's changing fishery
Professor Dag Friis

Prof. Dag Friis

The Ryan's Commander disaster is probably the most poignant example of some of the issues that the fish harvesting industry is facing in today's environment. Each incident that leads to loss of life and/or loss of the vessel is a painful reminder of how dangerous fish harvesting is. After the moratorium in 1992 fish harvesters had to be able to execute multi-species fisheries from a single vessel and it became necessary to fish farther and farther from shore. The boats in the inshore fleet (less than 65' in length) have been trying to adapt to these changes ever since stretching the capability of these vessels to the limit and beyond, in some cases. The vessel size restrictions imposed by Department of Fisheries and Oceans regulations have not changed to reflect the drastically changed operational regime that is necessary for financial survival of the so-called inshore fleet. This has meant that new vessels are wider and extended upwards in order to accommodate the different equipment.

Join Professor Dag Friis for this talk about his research work on the current trends in fishing vessel proportions and arrangements and how they are creating a number of safety, energy efficiency, and quality and profitability issues. He'll tell you how he and his colleagues are helping create safer workplaces in our fishery.

Speaking of Engineering is hosted by the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at Memorial University and the Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Thursday, January 19, 2006
7:30 p.m.
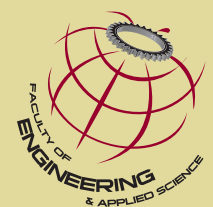**Memorial University, St. John's Campus**
S.J. Carew Building
Room EN2006
Reception to follow
Admission is free. All are welcome
Parking available in Lot 16

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