

EXAMPLE OF INNOVATIVE TEACHING #001

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TITLE OF INNOVATION CASE STUDY
Real time interaction with marine cage farm
CATEGORY
Virtual exercise
DURATION
1.5 hours
LANGUAGE
Suitable for any teaching language
OBJECTIVES OF THE CASE STUDY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take students on a virtual tour of a fully operating cage farm • To bring the aquaculture industry into the classroom • To encourage student/industry interaction
TARGETED EDUCATIONAL LEVEL/S
<p>Secondary education Higher education</p>
METHODOLOGY
<p>Setting up a virtual tour requires prior coordination with the farm and the company's permission to access its remote monitoring system. Therefore, this is envisaged as a classroom activity. The case study combined traditional lecturing with the use of multimedia tools to enable student/industry interaction.</p> <p>The session's structure was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory presentation (30 min) • Virtual tour of the farm & web conference with farm manager (45 min) • Questions & answers (15 min)

RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR IMPLEMENTATION

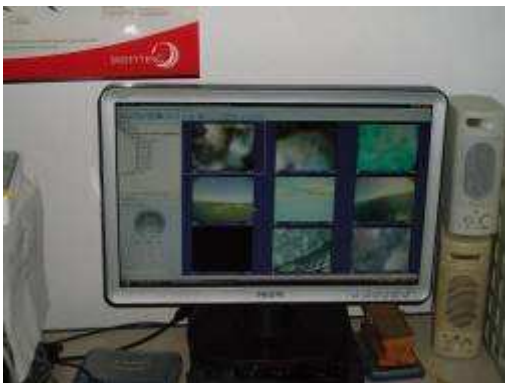
- Computer & peripherals (large display/projector, loudspeakers & microphone)
- Broadband Internet access
- Cage farm equipped with remote monitoring system
- Remote monitoring software
- Web conference software

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE CASE STUDY

Prior to the session, arrangements were made with the farm to feed a cage while the students were on the virtual tour of the farm.

The session started with a presentation on the technology behind the farm's remote monitoring system (surface and underwater cameras connected to a WiMAX telecommunications system) and the project that provided the funding to have it set up. Students were then taken on a virtual tour of the farm using the remote monitoring software (this allows to see what goes on at the farm in real time by connecting to each of the surface/underwater cameras) and they were able to see how the fish are fed from the boat using a blower and the fish's feeding behaviour. The farm manager guided the tour using a mobile WiMAX device & web conferencing software.

Students had the chance to ask questions related to this particular facility and cage farming in general to the farm manager.



ASSESSMENT METHOD (WHERE APPROPRIATE)

This was a pilot activity to test the technical viability of using the remote monitoring system as a training tool. No specific assignments were set and

therefore no assessment method was put in place.
FEEDBACK FROM TEST GROUP
Only oral feedback was requested. The students' general feeling was that the test session had been interesting and enlightening. They appreciated the chance to interact with the farm manager the most.
RELATED PROJECTS/USEFUL LINKS/RELEVANT LITERATURE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIMAR project www.avanzawimar.org • http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WiMAX
PRIOR TRAINING REQUIRED (IF ANY) TO IMPLEMENT A SIMILAR INITIATIVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific training in the use of the remote monitoring system
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CASE STUDY ADAPTABILITY
It is strongly recommended to make prior arrangements with a farm in order to make the most of the virtual visit.
OWNERSHIP/COPYRIGHT
WIMAR project
GENERAL REMARKS