

# Sea to Sky conference highlights PEI companies

by Gloria Welton and Stacy Dunn

A great deal of information was presented at the Sea to Sky conference held in August. Here is a short outline of some of what PEI companies had to share.

For the full articles, visit [www.employmentjourney.com](http://www.employmentjourney.com) and search by company name.



## NorCan Marine Inc.

**Russ Compton**, Owner and Founding President

NorCan owns crews and charters the NorCan Marine 222 ERRSV (Emergency Response Rescue and Support Vessel).

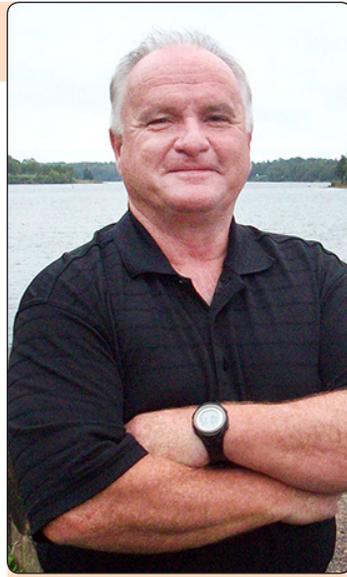
“As we move forward, NorCan will train all our crews and operate and charter the Norcan 222 on a world-wide basis,” says **Russ Compton**. “We provide integrated logistics support from our Montague office. Our crews will be fully trained on PEI at Holland College, at Aspin Kemp facilities, and at Faculty of Sustainable Design Engineering, UPEI.

“Looking forward, oil and gas will define 40 to 60 percent of our charter market. The remainder will be in the emerging markets of renewable offshore energy, humanitarian response, emergency towing, search & rescue, anti-piracy and fast military patrol vessels.

“We can deliver fuel savings of 35 to 50 percent, and take 90+ percent of greenhouse gas emissions out of the environment. This work is being done through the different technologies and efficiencies we have added with help from companies like Aspin Kemp and Associates, Servogear, and Mecmar.

“Because our vessel is two to three times faster than our competitors, we can replace two or three vessels in every operation. In one Asian operation, 13 vessels were replaced with one of ours.

“Norway and the UAE and UK are a big part of our business. We have a Strategic Alliance with Norway, and Innovation Norway is a big supporter. We are the first Canadian company to be part of the NCE Maritime Clean Tech supercluster.”



Russ Compton

Visit [www.norcanmarine.com](http://www.norcanmarine.com)



## StandardAero

**Ken Lecky**, Training and Development Manager

StandardAero is one of the largest independent Maintenance Repair and Overhaul and aviation service businesses in the world. They have over 6,000 employees in more than 30 facilities in the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, Singapore, and Australia.

“In the last year, we transitioned from Vector Aerospace to StandardAero,” says **Ken Lecky**. “StandardAero has created three different Centers of Excellence and has reorganized its primary Canadian MRO facility, which will be in Langley BC, Winnipeg MB, and Summerside, PEI.

“StandardAero Winnipeg has moved its P&WC PW100 MRO engine services and P&WC PT6A work to its facility in Summerside, making it the Turboprop Engine MRO Center of Excellence.



Ken Lecky

## Expansion and hiring needs

The Summerside location is currently expanding to add 50,000 square feet to the shop. “In the PEI facility, we need technicians and people to do support work, and we are poised to hire around 50 more staff due to the expansion. We have already hired 25 people within the last six weeks.

“We, as well as other companies in the industry, are all struggling with the local talent pool to find employees with aerospace experience, so we have modified our hiring and training strategy to accommodate for this.”

For more information, call 902-436-1333.

Visit [www.standardaero.com/AboutUs/Careers.aspx](http://www.standardaero.com/AboutUs/Careers.aspx)



## Aspin Kemp and Associates

**Tobia Wiedemer**, Business Development Specialist

Over the past 20 years, **Aspin Kemp and Associates** has served the oil and gas, marine, and land-based power and propulsion industries. AKA is located in Montague, with a team of around 100 people.

“We design innovative engineering projects and build entire power and propulsion systems for vessels and drilling rigs. These vessels operate globally. The newest series of drilling vessels is considered the most technologically advanced, and has been breaking drilling and fuel reduction records.”

AKA is a world leader in Marine microgrid development, and is now applying what they learned to land-based power systems. “We are converting our Pooles Corner manufacturing plant into a microgrid with solar, various forms of energy storage, and an energy management system based on the plant’s needs and operational requirements.

“We are looking at different areas, such as Northern Canada, where installing a microgrid will allow less dependence on the grid supply, enable utilization of renewable energy, and improve infrastructure for businesses and homes.”

AKA is currently hiring the following positions: Purchasing Specialist, Warehouse Clerk, Manufacturing Technicians, Electrical EITs, Senior Project Manager, Technical Writer, Software Developer, SCADA Engineer, and Embedded Controls & Software Engineer.

For information about **Aspin Kemp & Associates**, contact **Tobia Wiedemer** at 902-620-4882. To apply for a position, send your resumé to [careers@aka-group.com](mailto:careers@aka-group.com). Visit [www.aka-group.com](http://www.aka-group.com)

For a full company hiring practice profile, visit [www.employmentjourney.com](http://www.employmentjourney.com) and search **Aspin Kemp & Associates**.



Tobia Wiedemer

## Redrock Power Systems

**Paul Paterson**, P.Eng and Founder

This startup company that develops and commercializes alternative fuel cell systems for the marine industry was founded in 2017 by **Paul Paterson**, a Mechanical Engineer. Redrock is presently housed at UPEI’s Faculty of Sustainable Design Engineering.

“I saw the need for clean technology in boats and other marine vessels,” he says. “My experience is in fuel cell design for heavy duty transit buses, and I wanted to bring this technology to the marine industry for North America and Europe.”

One project proposal that Redrock is currently working on is for a low-cost high-speed commuter ferry service in British Columbia which would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 95 percent. The company is also working on a feasibility study to adopt advanced Swedish vessel technology for the Atlantic lobster fishery, thereby reducing in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by about 55 percent.

“In 2016, I was working at Aspin Kemp & Associates, where I was the industry liaison between AKA and UPEI. I participated in the senior class design clinic and we formed a good relationship. Redrock went on to hire one of the students participating in the clinic and we’ve just brought on another intern as well.”

For more information about **Redrock Power Systems**, visit [www.rrpsys.com](http://www.rrpsys.com)



Paul Paterson



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