

Mussel Harvest Barge Relies on WESMAR Thruster

Ask a mussel farmer what is most important in a harvest barge and he will undoubtedly say a stable boat, heavy-duty engines, a substantial boom crane and a robust bow thruster. The vessel James Victor, a 30-meter barge in Nelson, New Zealand, has them all, it was built specifically to harvest mussels.

The vessel is owned and operated by MacLabs, a New Zealand company that operates it in their mussel farming operations. The mussels are used for their production of Lyprinol™ (an antiinflammatory and anti-arthritis drug). The James Victor an aluminum vessel built by Reliance Engineering and designed by McBride Design of New Zealand for over the side mussel harvesting operations, where heavy load capability and reliable stability are required. The addition of a WESMAR counter rotating 37kw side thruster assists in holding steady to the line catcher and gives the vessel the maneuverability required for moving around the spat lines.

Twin Scania D, 309 KW at 2,100



The Vessel James Victor, a 30-meter barge in Nelson, New Zealand, uses a WESMAR counter rotating 37kw side thruster to give the vessel the maneuverability required to move around the spat lines and hold close to the line catcher.

rpm each. She cruises at 13 knots with a top speed of 15 knots and has a crew capacity of 6.

Mussel farmers collect all the important mussel seed at least twice a year and replant it on shore. The mussels mature after two years.



The rugged, heavy duty WESMAR Vortex thruster provides the precise station keeping necessary on a modern Mussel harvesting boat.

