

## USER FEE POLICY

This document describes the User Fee Policy for the VENUS cabled observatory facility of Ocean Networks Canada at the University of Victoria.

### 1. Fees for Data

The primary product from the VENUS facility is data. VENUS subscribes to the concept of open data that is **freely available** to all users conducting research, education, or personal edification. We do charge for data used for commercial purposes; see the VENUS Data Policy or contact the Facility Manager for details.

### 2. Use of User Fees

All user fees are deposited in a special purpose revenue account at the University of Victoria. Funds in this account are used entirely for operating the VENUS facility. User fees help offset the operational costs associated with:

- a. instrument integration, configuration, and performance verification;
- b. storing, transporting, and mounting instruments on available platforms;
- c. site selection and instrument deployment;
- d. daily monitoring of instrument status;
- e. data storage, data product generation, and data delivery; and
- f. recovery and un-mounting.

### 3. Calculation of User Fees

VENUS user fees are determined by the level of facility support that the requested services will require. We have identified three broad categories that are used in determining how the fees will be calculated:

- a. Single User/Group supplying an instrument. A user supplies an instrument for deployment on the facility. Fees are charged for direct costs associated with the mounting, integration, deployment and indirect costs associated with common support activities such as monitoring, data archiving, periodic data delivery, system re-starts/monitoring, and user support. Fees are charged per “deployment”, which is normally six months.
- b. Single User/Facility Instrument. A user requests sole use of a facility instrument that can only serve one user at a time. Fees are charged for “common support activities”. Fees are charged per “deployment”, which is normally six months; and
- c. Multiple Users/Facility Instrument. (i.e. Interactive Camera) Several users request shared access to a facility instrument for different research projects. Fees are charged for “common support activities”. The user fee will be charged to each

group (i.e. laboratory) using the instrument. Fees are charged per “deployment”, which is normally six months.

#### 4. Fee Structure

##### 4.1. Single User/Group supplying an instrument.

The associated fees as of July 2009:

a. Canadian academic and Co-applicants	Cost plus \$1500
b. Other Canadian researcher	Cost plus \$3000
c. Foreign and Commercial users	Cost plus \$7500

“Cost” would include direct expenses incurred to build special cables, mounts, or platforms to accommodate the user supplied instrument and a pro-rated component of the ship and ROV resources necessary for instrument.

##### 4.2. Single User/Facility Instrument.

The associated fees as of July 2009:

a. Canadian academic and Co-applicants	\$1500
b. Other Canadian researcher	\$3000
c. Foreign and Commercial users	\$7500

##### 4.3. Multiple Users/Facility Instrument.

The associated fees **per Group** as of July 2009:

a. Canadian academic and Co-applicants	\$1500
b. Other Canadian researcher	\$3000
c. Foreign and Commercial users	\$7500

#### 5. Notes

This fee structure is subject to change. Please contact VENUS for the latest fee structure. A user may be able to make a case to the Facility that other in-kind contributions (i.e. ship time) may offset the User Fees. Please call to discuss.