

September, 2011

# Facts about **FACTS™**

## Enterprise Software for Catch Shares Management

FACTS™ is a fully integrated set of at-sea and onshore software modules for fishers, industry groups, and government or other regulatory organizations.

FACTS™ has been developed by Electric Edge Systems Group, which has worked with the Department of **Fisheries and Oceans Canada** (DFO) since 2002. Electric Edge's experience with the DFO includes design, development and maintenance of the major software applications that support the British Columbia groundfish fisheries and their associated catch shares program.

FACTS™ is in use in the **BC Groundfish fisheries** and in four sectors of the Multispecies **Groundfish fisheries in the Northeastern USA**.

Electric Edge Systems can mix and match, customize and adapt the FACTS™ modules to suit virtually any fishery. Details for each module are provided below.



### E-Hails Module

The electronic hails module is used either aboard vessels or by a call center for entry of hails (trip notifications) that are relayed by vessels. Dockside monitors can receive the hail data in order to schedule staff to meet the vessel and count catch during the offload process. The e-hails system (currently known as EasyHails™) is in active use in British Columbia and the Northeastern USA.



### E-Logs Module

E-Logs are used by fishers to send catch log data either from the vessel or from shore shortly after the trip has landed. Unlike paper-based catch logs, the data is validated before it is transmitted.



### Landed Catch Module

The landed catch module is used by the party designated to record the catch details while overseeing the offload of catch. The data is then available immediately to all authorized stakeholders in the fishery.



### Quota Management Module

The quota module integrates information from the other modules (or external data sources) in order to perform quota/ACE calculations and report on the status of quota at varying degrees of granularity. The quota module also allows for recording of quota transfers between licenses, and provides an interface for science staff and fishery

managers to maintain core data used in quota/ACE calculations. The module has been delivered to a major groundfish fishery sector in the Northeastern USA.

---

## **Real-Time Fishery Management™ and FACTS™**

FACTS™ provides the core technology that supports Electric Edge's concept of Real-Time Fishery Management™. Under this concept, a fishery manager, fisher, enforcement officer, or other authorized stakeholder is able to access trip-level hail, catch, logbook, quota, or other applicable data during or immediately following the conclusion of a fishing trip.

Real-Time Fishery Management™ is of particular importance in fisheries that are based upon catch shares/individual quota. Timely reporting and calculation of remaining quota are crucial to proper management of catch shares fisheries and are especially important to individual fishers and license holders. These stakeholders require frequent updates to determine whether fishing can continue as well as the areas and species that may be targeted.

## **The FACTS™ Business Model**

In the current climate of austerity and budget cuts, Electric Edge Systems offers an alternative to traditional software development. Instead of large upfront costs (and long timelines) to design and build a custom system from scratch, Electric Edge provides FACTS™ as an ongoing service with a small fee charged for each transaction (e.g. fishing trip) and little or no up-front development cost, depending upon the size of the fishery, projected number of transactions, etc.

With FACTS™, the transaction fees cover the costs of ongoing system hosting, maintenance, support, and enhancements. In the case of fisheries that recover processing and administration costs through user fees, such fees can be applied to the FACTS™ transaction costs, allowing FACTS™ to be introduced with little or no capital expenditure.

## **For more FACTS™...**

To find out more, please visit the FACTS™ website or contact Electric Edge directly.

FACTS™ Website: <http://www.fisheryfacts.com>

FACTS™ E-Mail: [info@fisheryfacts.com](mailto:info@fisheryfacts.com)

Electric Edge Systems Group Inc.  
Suite A, 3388 Tennyson Avenue  
Victoria, BC  
V8Z 3P6 Canada

Website: <http://www.electrictedgesystems.com>

E-Mail: [info@electrictedgesystems.com](mailto:info@electrictedgesystems.com)

Telephone: +1.250.480.0642

Facsimile: +1.250.480.1264