



“Environmental Innovation in the Offshore”

Biography: Dr. David Risk, St. Francis Xavier University

David Risk is an Associate Professor of Earth Sciences at St. Francis Xavier University. His interests lie in the measurement of gas emission from soils, isotope tracers, and sensor techniques. Some of this expertise is applied to natural ecosystems where Risk collaborates with researchers on projects from pole to pole, particularly focusing on soil microbial dynamics in cold ecosystems. A large portion of his research is also aimed at improving environmental performance in the energy industry, to either demonstrate containment in Carbon Capture and Storage projects, or to detect subsurface gas leaks in unconventional energy projects. Risk is an established international expert on these topics, and has worked with Cenovus Energy, Shell, Det Norske Veritas, URS Corp, Sherritt, the Petroleum Technology Research Centre, HTC Purenergy, Picarro, and the International Energy Agency. Risk is also a founder of Forerunner Research Inc., a Dartmouth-based spinoff company formed on the strength of numerous patents to have emerged from Risk's lab group. He currently maintains a well-funded research program, and leads a great team of 12 researchers. Risk maintains strong commitment to teaching at both undergraduate and graduate levels, and is currently the coordinator of StFX's Environmental Sciences program.