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SUMMARY	as been designed for the clear w	ator tow tank	as of 2006	Thie	
A new wave probe arm has been designed for the clear water tow tank as of 2006. This arm is much smaller and lighter than the currently existing wave arm. It is intended for low					
load applications. This document contains the details of this design.					
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CWTT Wave Probe Arm, 2006

SR-2006-02

T. Osmond

April 2006

Introduction

January, 2006 – the Institute for Ocean Technology has established a need for a folding arm that extends almost half way across the clear water tow tank at full deployment. The arm is intended to be used to attach wave probes. The arm is to be a lighter more practical arm than the one currently employed in the tank. It is to operate in conjunction with the currently existing, much larger arm and is not intended to serve as a replacement. Howard Mesh established the necessity for this arm and its design has been the responsibility of the coop student within the Design and Fabrication Group working under Tony Randell. The design of the new wave probe arm was undertaken during the last three weeks in January, 2006. The arm is a basic aluminum frame hinged from a Stainless Steel bracket, anchored to the cement wall of the Clear Water Tow Tank. Fully deployed the arm extends away from the tank wall at a 90 degree angle. The arm can be locked both fully deployed and folded against the tank wall. An additional support piece has also been designed. Its purpose is to brace the arm against sway should it be a problem. The fabrication of this support piece is subject to its necessity pending testing of the arm. There were two phases to the design of this piece of equipment. The first phase led up to the design review meeting. Following the design meeting the wave probe arm was extensively redesign to accommodate many new requests and suggestions posed by the group attending the design review meeting. The following report presents the factors of consideration and the features that were implemented into the design of both the wave probe arm and the supporting piece. Full CAD design is available under CAD_User:\Projects\421009_cwt\ProbeArm\ProbeArm.ckd.

<u>Shape</u>

The total length of the wave probe arm is 175 inches from the wall of the tank to the tip of the arm at full deployment. This length includes the added distance of the bracket. The arm is almost 14 inches in height with two inches of width. Two parallel lengths of aluminum box tube are cross braced and supported by three 10 inch long, aluminum box tube supports and two aluminum gusset plates. The

1

purpose of the supports is to provide structural integrity and to reduce bending in the arm from externally applied loads and under its own weight. The lower length of box tube extends 50 inches beyond the upper as less support is necessary near the end of the arm. The arm is bolted to a stainless steel bracket that was previously fabricated. The bracket is to be modified to suit the purposes of the wave probe arm application. Modifications include two thick stainless steel plates welded to the upper and lower surfaces of the bracket and machined to be parallel with each other. This is necessary because the surfaces of the currently existing bracket are not parallel due to welding deflections during fabrication. Aluminum bushings and screws are used as the axis of rotation for the arm.

<u>Strength</u>

The strength demands on the design of the wave probe arm are minimal. The weight of the wave probes are merely a few grams therefore the arm must be capable of sustaining very little beyond its own weight. For this reason the arm is designed of only 2 x 2 x 0.188 inch aluminum box tubing. The material is light, corrosion resistance and rigid. By separating the top and bottom lengths of tube a distance of approximately 10 inches the moment of inertia is elevated around the bending axes. This reduces deflection caused by loading of the arm should any loading be necessary in future applications. The box tube and gusset supported design also provide considerable rigidity in torsion and sway and will prevent the arm from folding in or collapsing under increased bending stress.

Support Component

A supporting component has been designed to brace the wave probe arm against sway. It has not yet been determined whether this component is necessary. Should it be found that there is a flexing in the wave probe arm that interferes with the readings of the wave probes, the supporting component will be fabricated. The supporting component is more complicated in design then the wave probe arm itself. The base plate and joint attachment are made of stainless steel and bolts are used to attach the two together. The height of the

2

joint attachment is designed to be adjustable ± one inch because the exact positioning of the plate through drilling the cement anchors cannot be set accurately. Attached to the joint is a long aluminum hollow rod. An optional cable can be attached to prevent the rod from bending if it is to be left unsupported for extended periods of time. At the end of the rod a threaded bushing is welded and set. A threaded rod is screwed into the bushing and screwed into an aluminum bottle screw at the other end. A rod end screws into the bottle screw and loops over a hook that is welded to the wave probe arm. When the bottle screw is turned it tightens and holds the arm in place.

Features

As previously mentioned the lower length of the probe arm extends 50 inches beyond the main frame. It is to this section of the arm that the wave probes are intended to be attached. To do this a thin piece of flat bar is welded to the front surface of the arm so that the probes may clip on.

When deployed at full 90 degrees the arm is capable of locking in place. A ¹/₄ inch screw feeds through a hole in the arm near the bracket and screws into the bracket. Tightening this screw down will lock the arm in position. This however may provide little support for the arm against sway so a supporting component has been designed to account for this and is described above. When the arm is folded against the tank wall the bolt may again be tightened down to hold the arm in position.

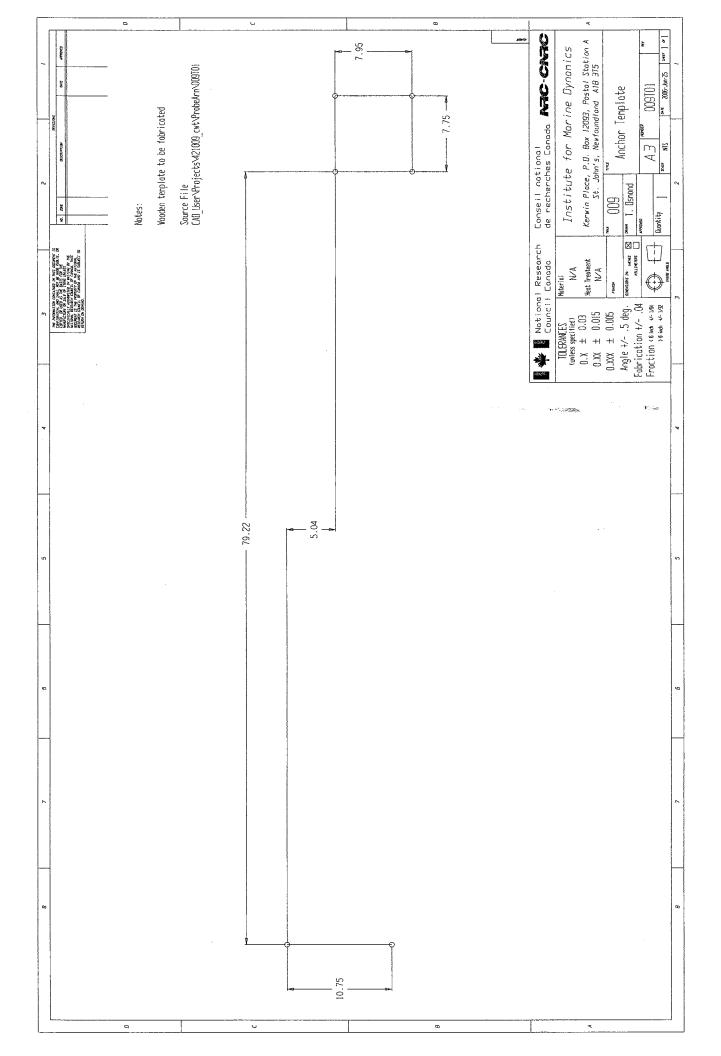
The entire assembly has been designed to be corrosion resistant because the assembly will be fixed just above the water level in the Clear Water Tank where humidity will be very high. Most of the load bearing components are composed of stainless steel including the bracket, the wall plate for the supporting component and all of the bolts, buckles and anchors. The frame of the arm, the supporting arm and the bushings are made of aluminum and the tie rod end is

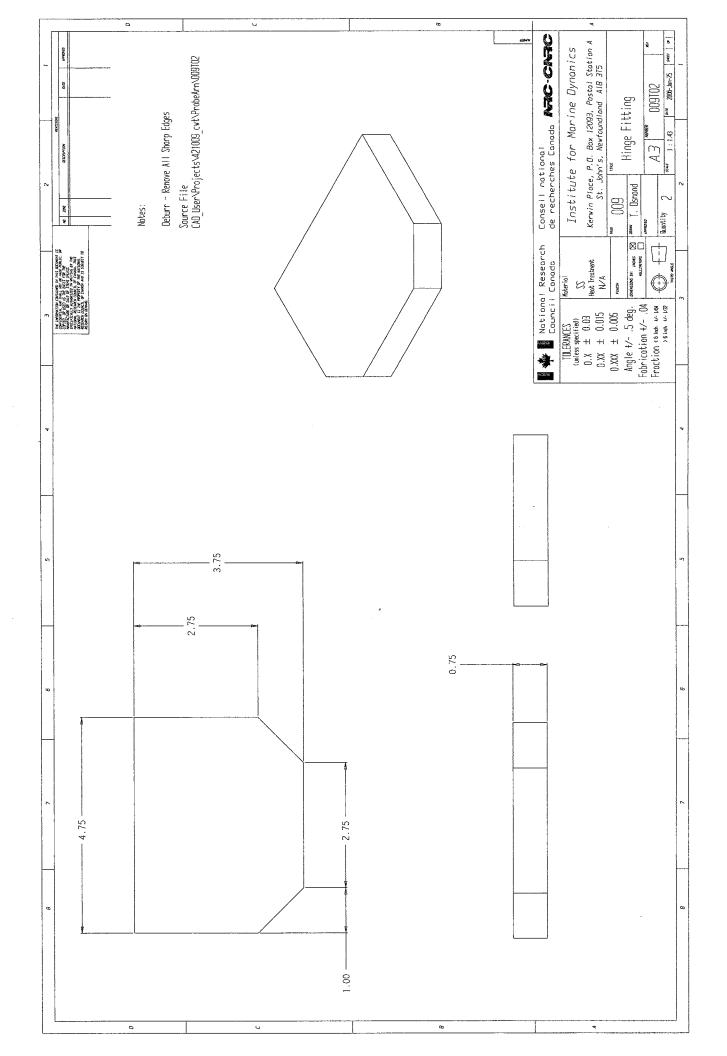
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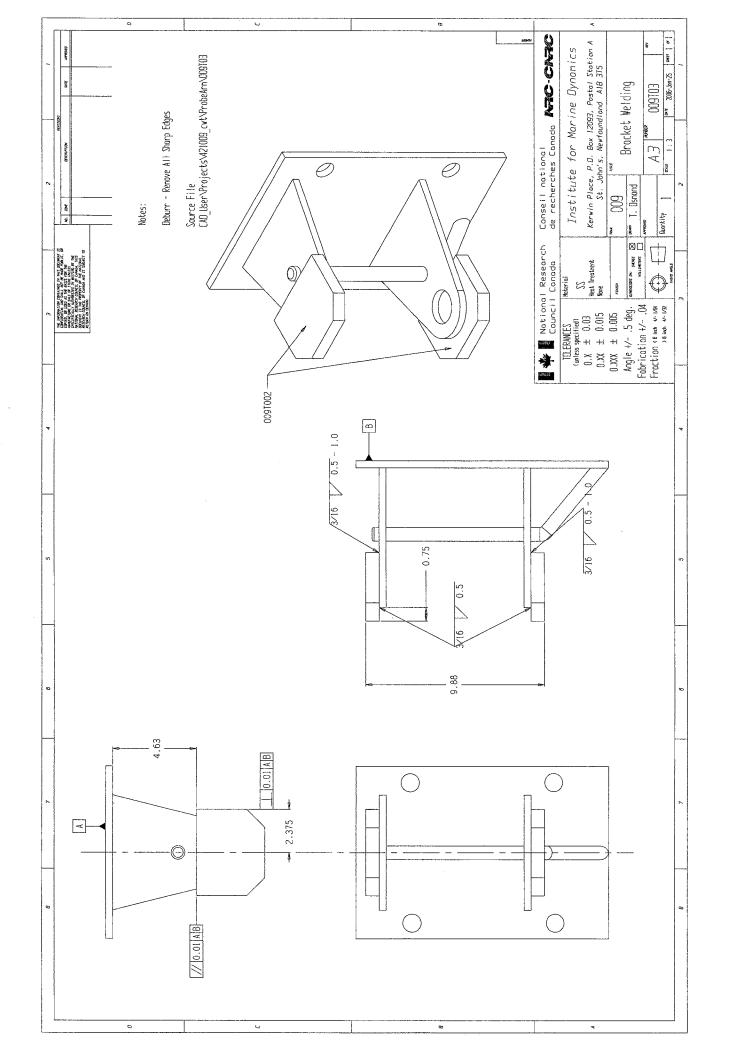
made of plastic. No lubrication should be needed for this design because of low loads and no wear applications.

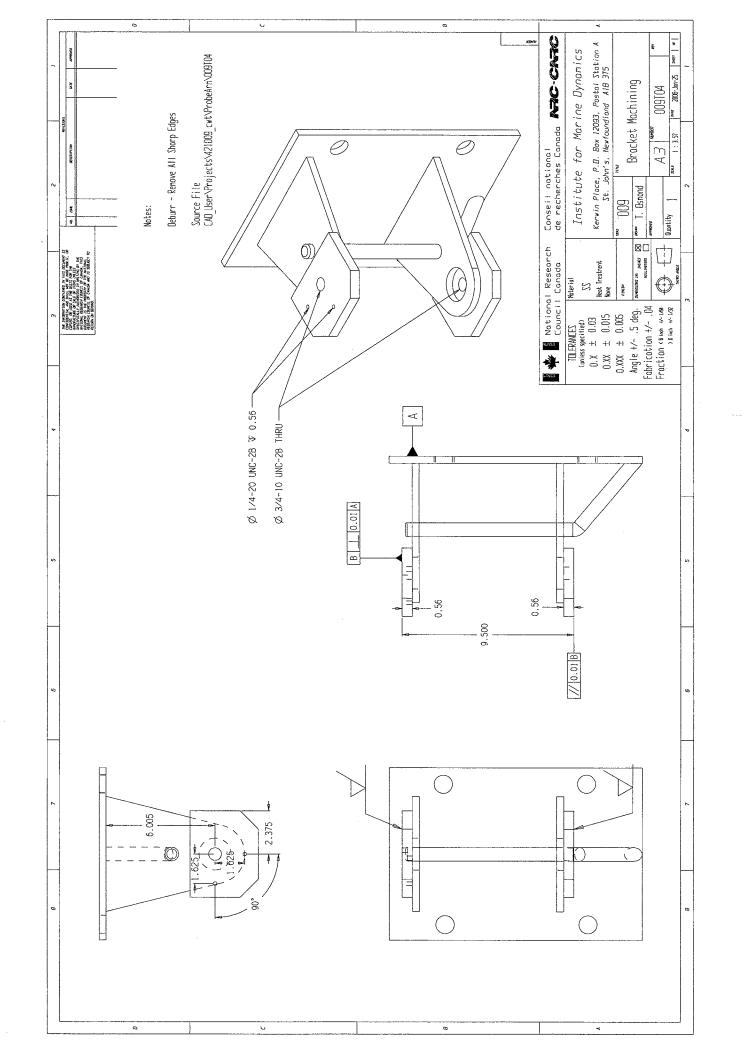
Due to the low demands on the wave probe arm there are few complicated components. No bearings or lubricated components have been incorporated into the design. The arm is a lightweight, low load piece of equipment designed specifically for wave probes however may be used for other low load purposes. The loading limit for the wave probe arm will depend on the acceptable deflection for the application but the arm should not be loaded with any more than 20 lbs at the very tip of the arm.

Drawings









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