

IMPOSSIBLE

METALS

Economically viable selective harvesting of
polymetallic nodules



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Our Foundation

Accelerating clean energy by delivering the most sustainable battery metals

To harvest and process critical battery metals from the seabed, while protecting the environment

Design Goals



Leave nodule mega
fauna and sediment
fauna behind



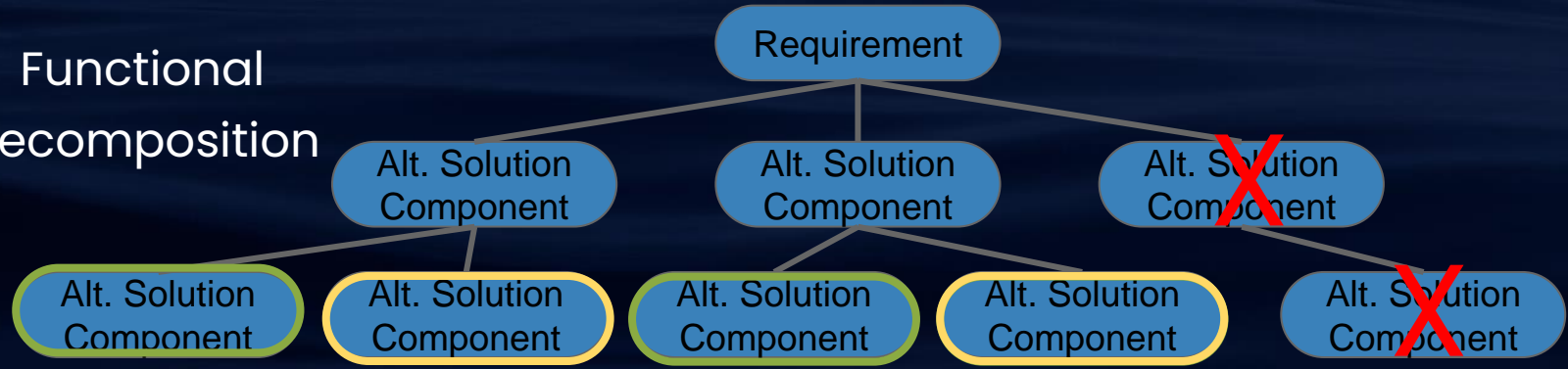
Leave habitat intact



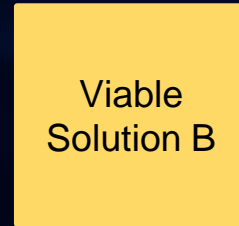
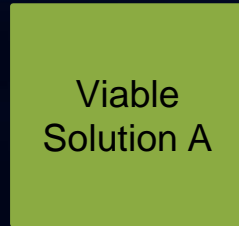
Superior economics

Design Approach

Functional
Decomposition



Solution
Build Up



Economic
Comparison

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Solution

Selective harvest

- Computer Vision to identify nodules and life
- Arms to individually pick up the nodules

Hover, moving over the seabed to not disturb the sediment

- High stability vehicle with thrusters far from the seabed
- Buoyancy engine for offsetting added weight

AUV fleet and integrated vertical transport

- AUV buoyancy engine lifts the nodules to the surface

Production support vessel is the ore transport vessel

- No ship to ship transfer
- Operation from vessels with minimal customization

Full Cycle Operations

Keys to Success – Computer vision and arms



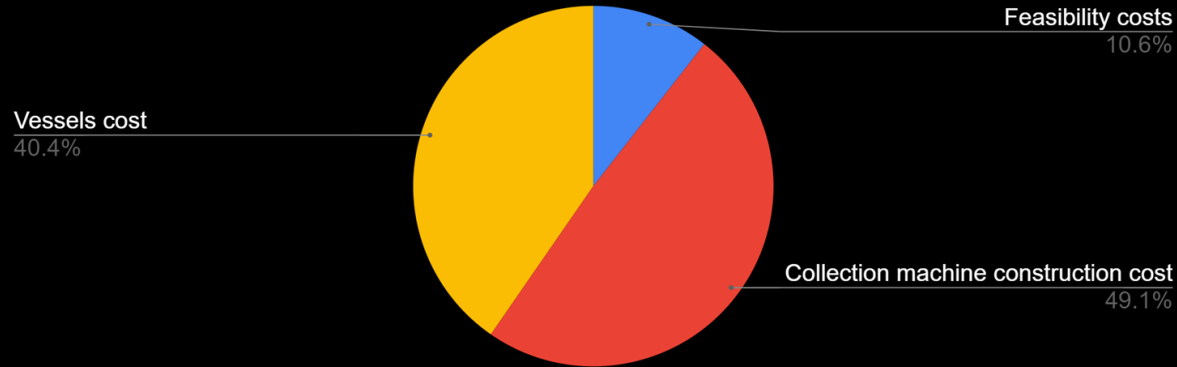
Keys to Success – Buoyancy Engine



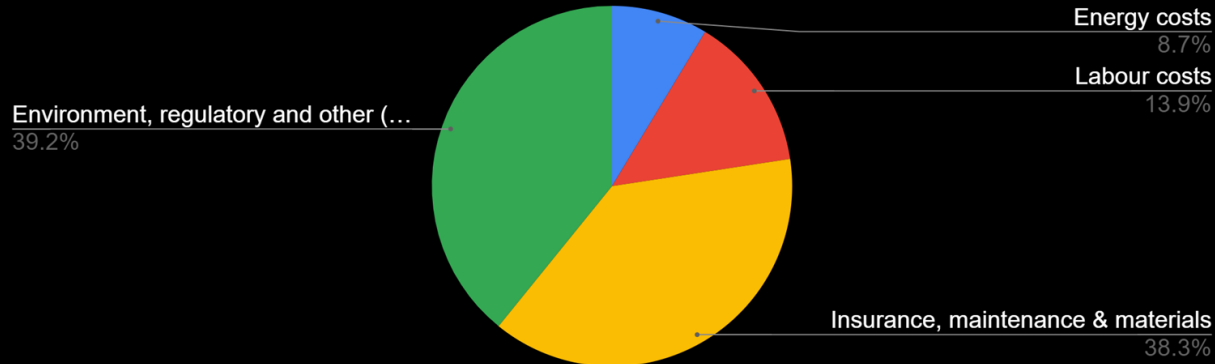
Impossible Metals Concept

CAPEX and OPEX

Impossible Metals CAPEX - 3M Metric Ton Material - \$966,000,000



Impossible Metals OPEX - 3M Metric Ton Material - \$220,000,000



Key Economic Factors

\$98.58
Metric Ton

Positive NPV:
3 years

- Minimal vessel customization
- Arm speed
- Buoyancy engine: cost per kg of lift

- Parallel operations: suitable system

AUV Technology Readiness Roadmap

Proof Of Concept

v1 Buoyancy
only vehicle
small

v2
Arm and
Vision system
(in tow tank)

v3
Small 50m
vehicle

Jul 22

Sep 22

Nov 22

2023

2024/2025

2026

V3 Objectives

Overall objective is to prove out the key technologies not collection of nodules at scale.

- Develop and demonstrate key enabling technology
 - Buoyancy Engine
 - Arms
- Demonstrate integrated operation
- Fast development – not elegant

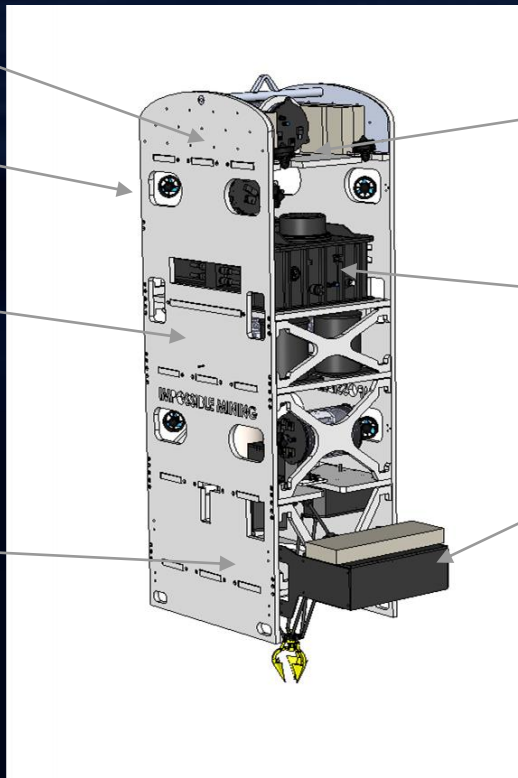
Prototype Collection System

HDPE Frame

12 Thrusters

4 Vessel
Buoyancy
Engine

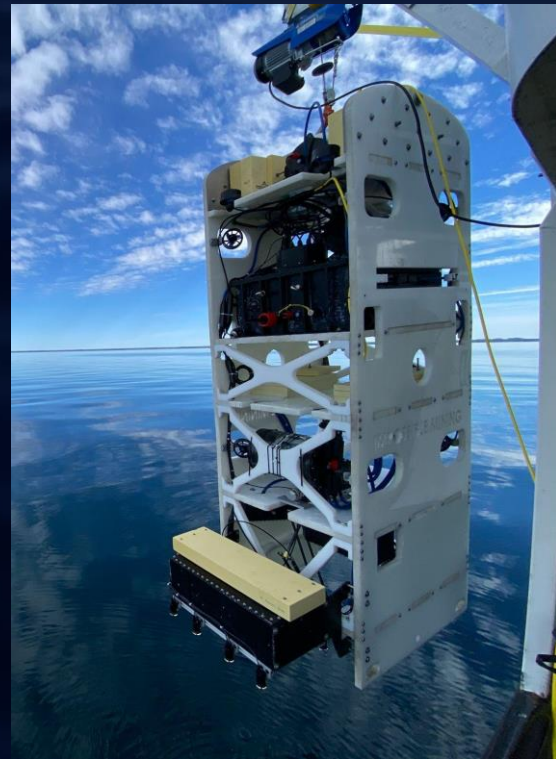
Robotic Arm



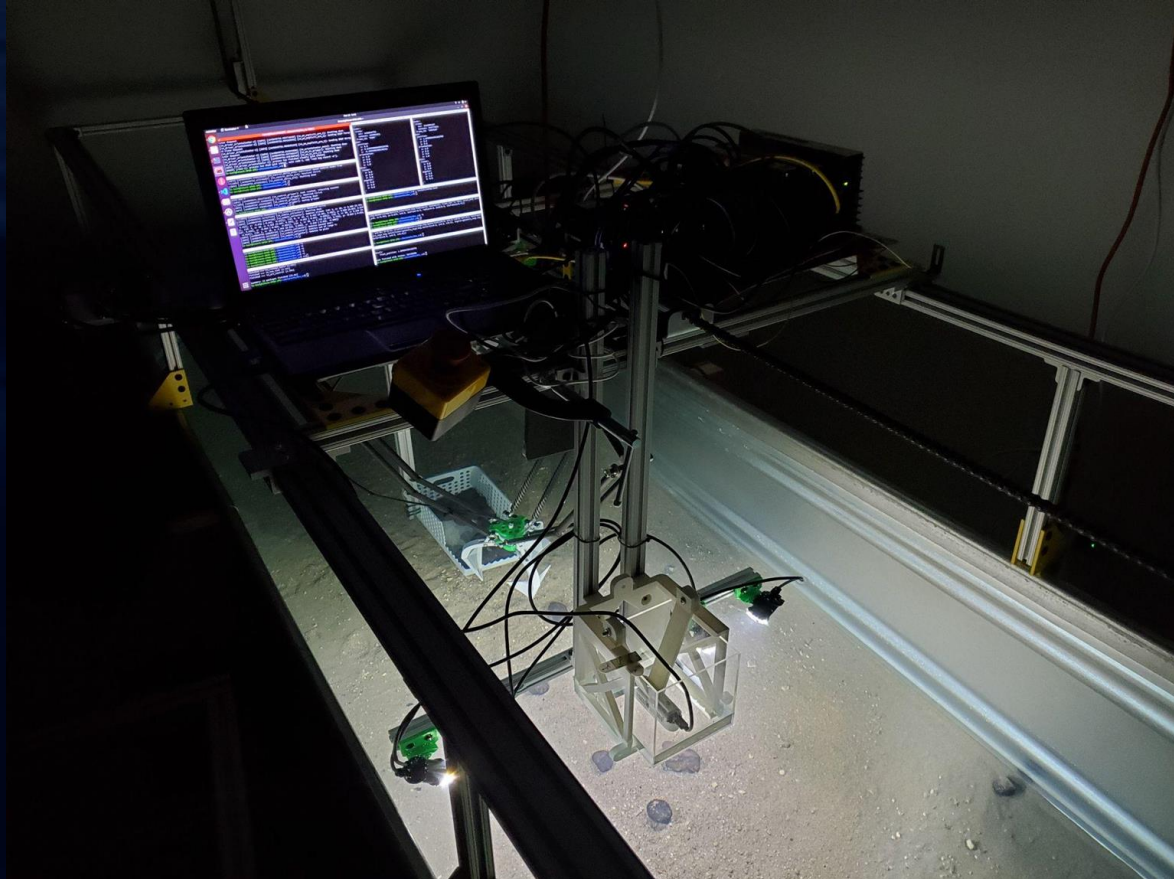
Communications
and Electronics
Housings

Battery Pack

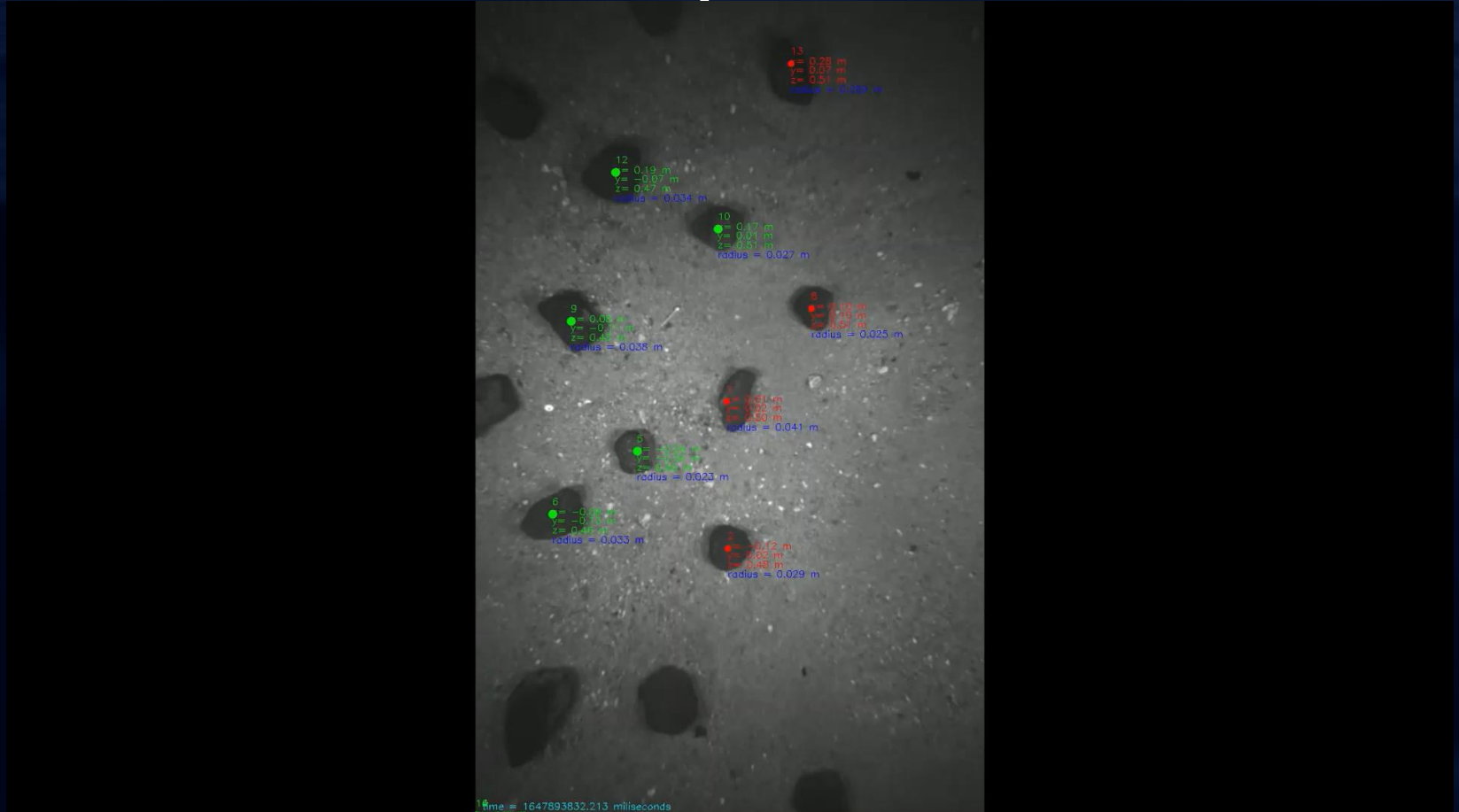
Vision System



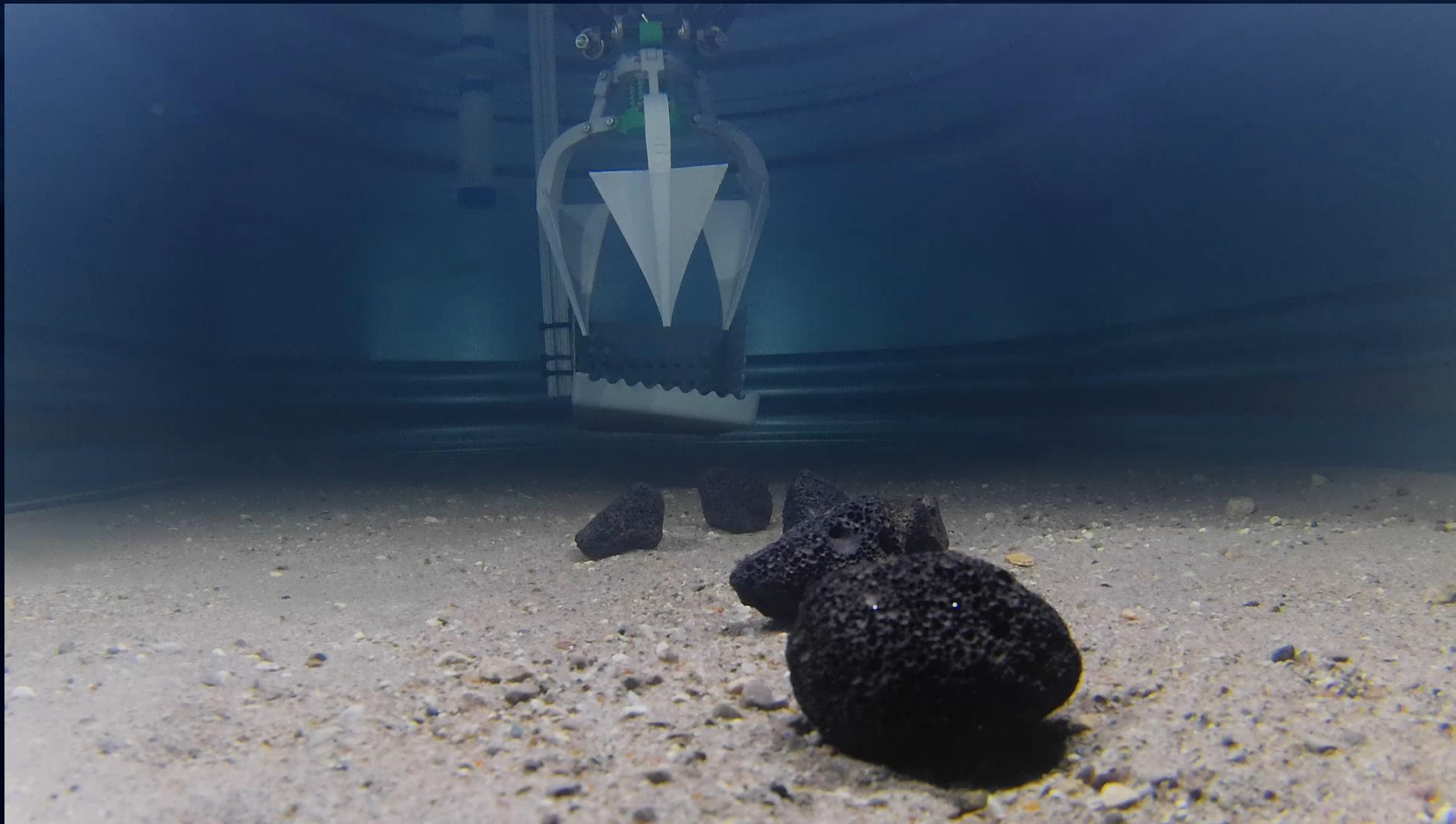
Tow Tank



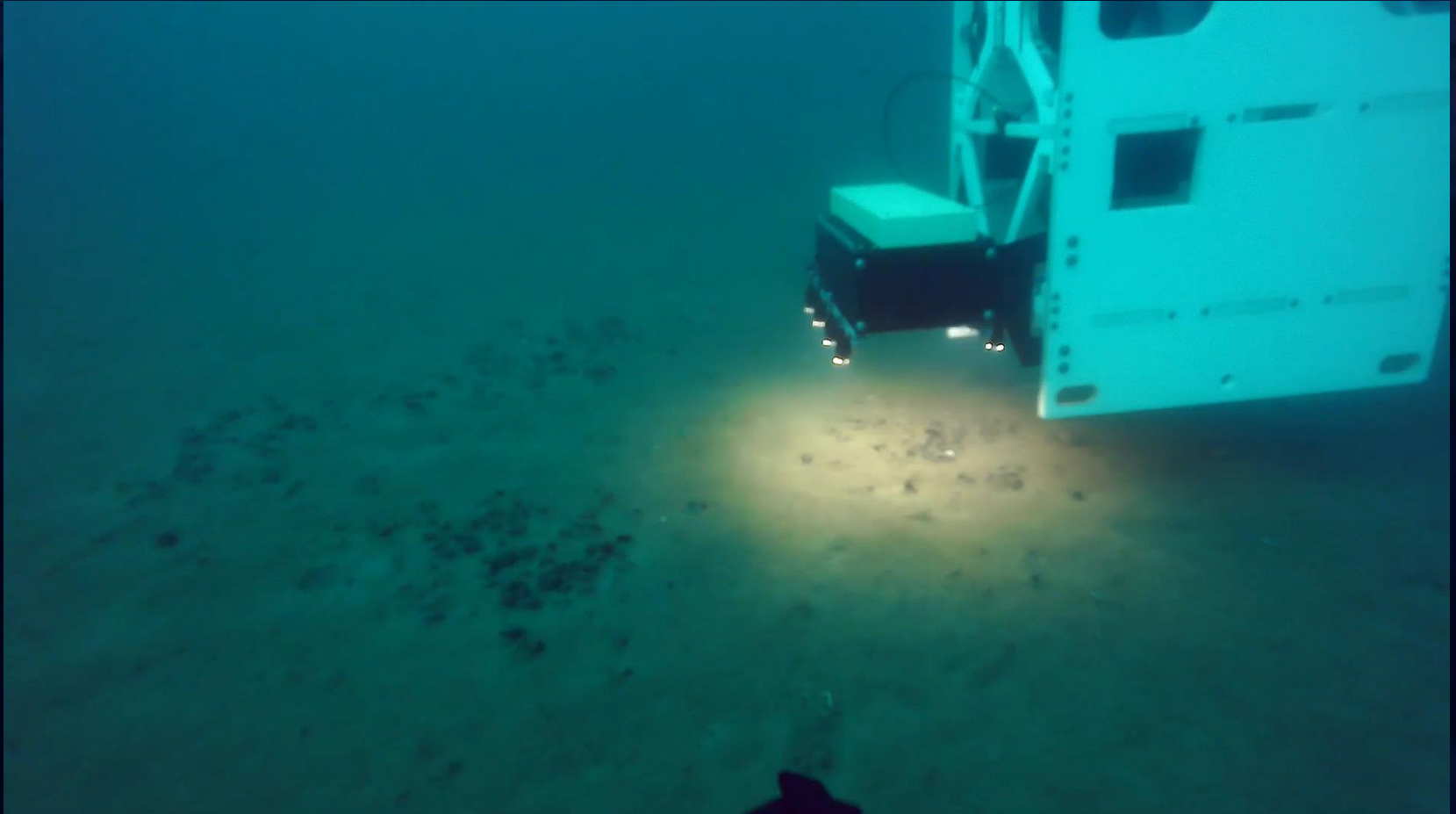
Tow Tank – Computer Vision



Tow Tank – Arm



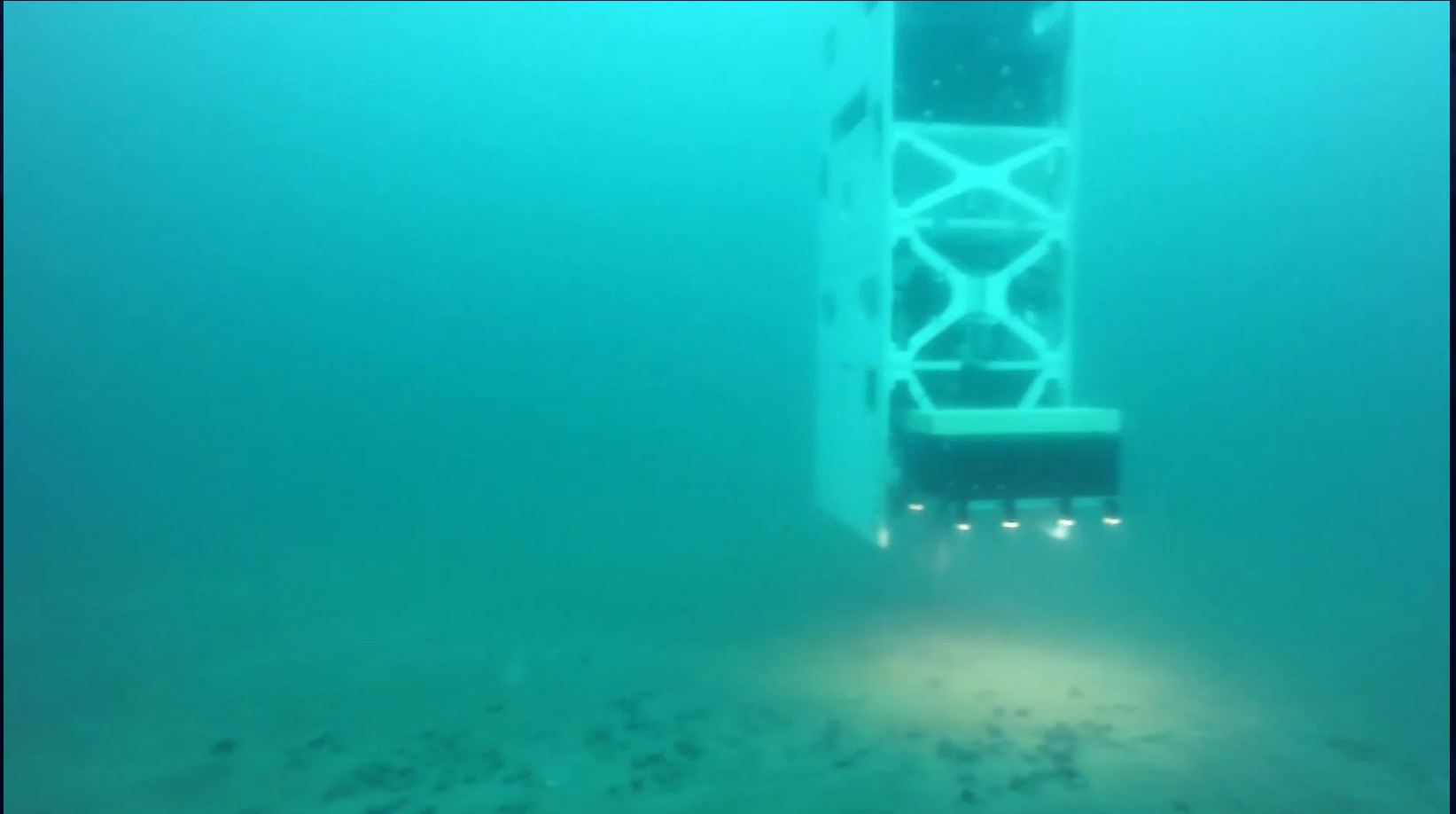
Basic Autonomous Control



Lakebed Vision System



Lakebed Arm Testing



AUV Technology Readiness Roadmap

Proof Of Concept

Prototype/Pilot

Commissioning/
Operations

v1 Buoyancy
only vehicle
small

v2
Arm and
Vision system
(in tow tank)

v3
Small 50m
vehicle

v4
Small 5km
vehicle

v5
Full size 5km
vehicle

v6
Fleet of
vehicles

Jul 22

Sep 22

Nov 22

2023

2024/2025

2026

Why Selective Harvesting

- Developed with Environmental Science and Economic Principles
 - Demonstration of the key enabling technologies
 - On track for complete V3 this year
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- We want to get additional partners involved. We are targeting having the deep water testing in 2023 subject to regulatory pathways.