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# Fish health company launches continuous barrier monitoring for aquaculture

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By Responsible Seafood Advocate

## QuantiDoc is the winner of the 2016 Innovation Award

Norwegian biotechnology pioneer **QuantiDoc** (<http://www.quantidoc.no>), recently launched Veribarr™ for Continuous Barrier Monitoring of the mucus on the skin, gills and guts of farmed fish, particularly Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*).

A fish's mucus barriers are its first line of defense against pathogens. Evolved over 500 million years, these barriers are sensors capable of detecting problems in fish three to four weeks before they are identified by other methods, the company stated in a release. Veribarr now provides an objective, quantitative measure of barrier strength, giving producers access to an early warning system for changes in fish health.

Monitoring barrier health in a fish population allows for the documentation of the condition of the stock and its welfare.

“Documentation and continuous monitoring of health status is the foundation for good, sustainable decisions in both short and long terms,” said Karin Pittman, founder of QuantiDoc, which won the



Biotech pioneer QuantiDoc's VERIBARR tool gives an objective, quantitative measure of the strength of a farmed fish's skin, gills and guts. Pictured is Karin Pittman, CEO of QuantiDoc.

Innovation Award in 2016, then awarded by the Global Aquaculture Alliance (now the Global Seafood Alliance, publisher of the *Advocate*). "Our main goal is to shift focus from reactive treatment to proactive problem prevention. This is the most critical step we can take for the welfare of farmed fish today."

A promotional banner for the Responsible Seafood Summit. On the left is the logo for the summit, featuring a stylized fish eye and the text "Responsible Seafood SUMMIT". To the right, the text reads "SAINT JOHN NEW BRUNSWICK CANADA OCTOBER 2-5 2023". A prominent red button with the word "REGISTER" in white is positioned to the right of the text. The background is a dark teal color with a faint map of the world and several red airplane icons. In the top right corner, the "Global Seafood ALLIANCE" logo is visible.

(<https://events.globalseafood.org/responsible-seafood-summit>).

"The value of continuous monitoring lies in detecting potential issues long before they develop into something serious," Pittman added. "Based on 12 years of industrial projects and research, we can now accurately predict what is about to happen in the facility, assess the biological risk and advise on

necessary measures. This marks a transition from reactive disease and problem treatment to a proactive approach that prevents and mitigates problems.”



## Mucosal mapping architect wins aquaculture innovation award

Quantidoc AS in Norway is the commercialization of Prof. Karin Pittman's years of fish health research. Pittman, winner of this year's Global Aquaculture Innovation and Leadership Award, utilizes stereology to measure and better understand mucous on gill, gut and skin tissues – the first line of defense for fish.



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