Inaugural Oceans In Action, 2011
  - Industry Cluster details provided to audience
  - Commitment cards from interested parties collected

Oceans In Action continues annually to serve as routine meeting of cluster stakeholders

MTS continues to hold brown bag lunches as Active Section of International professional organization

USM holds Marine Technologies Economic Forum in June 2014

USM Economic Development Class focuses on quantifying Blue Economy in capstone project
USM Project Highlights

- Historical difficulty in identifying just what is the Blue Economy in economic terms
  - No specific NAICS codes
  - Segmented collaborations

- National Oceans Economic Program Data
  - Database using NAICS codes and geography
  - Relevant coastal MS jobs account for $15B contribution to GDP

- Blue Economy is key industry sector for coastal Mississippi
  - Secondary data sources show Blue Economy at 35% of the coastal workforce
  - Indications that better data may increase this percentage to >50%
SBA Opportunity

- June 2014 – Small Business Administration
  - RFP supporting existing Regional Innovation Clusters (RICs)
- Support proposed
  - Direct Services
    - Business training
    - Business counseling/consulting
    - Mentoring
    - Technology Transfer counseling
    - Commercialization of R&D Results
    - Engagement with SBIR/STTR programs
    - Supporting Facility Clearance and holding personal clearances
    - Export readiness counseling/consulting
    - Support to underserved communities
    - Annual MIST event
    - Dedicated website with analytical tools
SBA Opportunity

- Support proposed (continued)
  - Linking Services
    - Build customer base with federal agencies
    - Build networks and partnerships
    - Provide opportunities for showcasing and demonstration
    - Assist in market development in region and beyond
    - Assist in ascertaining federal agency technology development requirements and priorities, matching; and/or operationalizing cluster technology and capabilities to best meet these needs
    - Facilitate opportunities for accessing new resources and markets
SBA Opportunity

Proposal selected for award based on SBA email received YESTERDAY!!!!

Team
MSET – Lead
USM – Key Partner
LTTO – Supporting Contractor
Innovate Mississippi – Supporting Contractor
Cluster Stakeholders

- MSET Companies with any involvement in Marine S&T
- Any agency that had a representative speak at Oceans In Action
- Any agency participating in Oceans In Action matchmaking
- Relevant state and local organizations
- Not sure?
  - Contact us!
Next Steps

- Open stakeholder meeting
- MTS brown bag lunches
  - USM Economic Development Master’s Class invited to present their findings
- Collaboration with The Maritime Alliance (San Diego industry cluster)
  - Best practices
  - Lessons Learned
- Oceans In Action 2015 – Bigger and Better