



**Unique EARTHTRACE vessel to make stop in Vancouver's Granville Island  
Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**

**For Immediate release  
Vancouver, BC**

**July 28, 2006**

*EARTHTRACE*, a boat fuelled with 100% biodiesel that will attempt to set the world record for circumnavigating the globe in March, 2007, will be making a short stop in Vancouver's Granville Island as part of its worldwide promo tour.

The Earthrace Project ([www.earthrace.net](http://www.earthrace.net)) is the brainchild of New Zealander Pete Bethune. Pete worked for many years for as an oil exploration engineer and was exposed to renewable fuels and naval architecture after leaving that industry to continue his studies in Sydney. During his studies, he stumbled across a website which governs world powerboat records ([www.uimpowerboating.com](http://www.uimpowerboating.com)) and learnt that the record for circumnavigation of the globe by a powerboat is 75 days (set in 1998 by British boat Cable and Wireless). That was the beginning of *EARTHTRACE*: the fuel, the design and the challenge....a perfect mix for Pete. With its wave-piercing technology, *EARTHTRACE* aims to complete the race in less than 65 days. It is also the first time in history an official UIM Powerboat Record will be attempted using renewable fuel.

"We are presently bringing the boat across the mighty Pacific, arriving in Vancouver on August 1<sup>st</sup>", said Pete Bethune, Skip and CEO of Earthrace 2006. "We will then be undertaking a 6 month promotional tour of the US and Canada – visiting approximately 30 cities in the process. We are starting on the West Coast, and then heading through the Panama Canal and up the East Coast of the US. After that it's through the St Lawrence Seaway and into the Great Lakes, before coming down the Mississippi to New Orleans. It promises to be quite an adventure."

*EARTHTRACE* has been funded to date by sponsorship from more than 200 marine supplies companies who have donated everything from onboard communications gear to high-tech toilets. Locally, **West Coast BioDiesel**, a wholly-owned division of **West Coast Reduction Ltd. (WCRL)** established to initially market, store, and distribute biodiesel in western Canada, has supported the Earthrace Project from its inception. West Coast Biodiesel is Western Canada's largest distributor of biodiesel. More info at [www.wcrl.com](http://www.wcrl.com).

***EARTHTRACE* will be available for viewing by the media at the Public Dock in Granville Island at 11:30 AM, Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. Public viewings commence Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> (1pm – 5pm), Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> (10am – 5pm), and Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> (10am – 5pm).**

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