



INTELLIGENSICUS

The Outpost

The Repeatable Unit That Makes Saturation Affordable

RESEARCH PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Imran Stanton Cooper

MARINE

CEPHALOPOD

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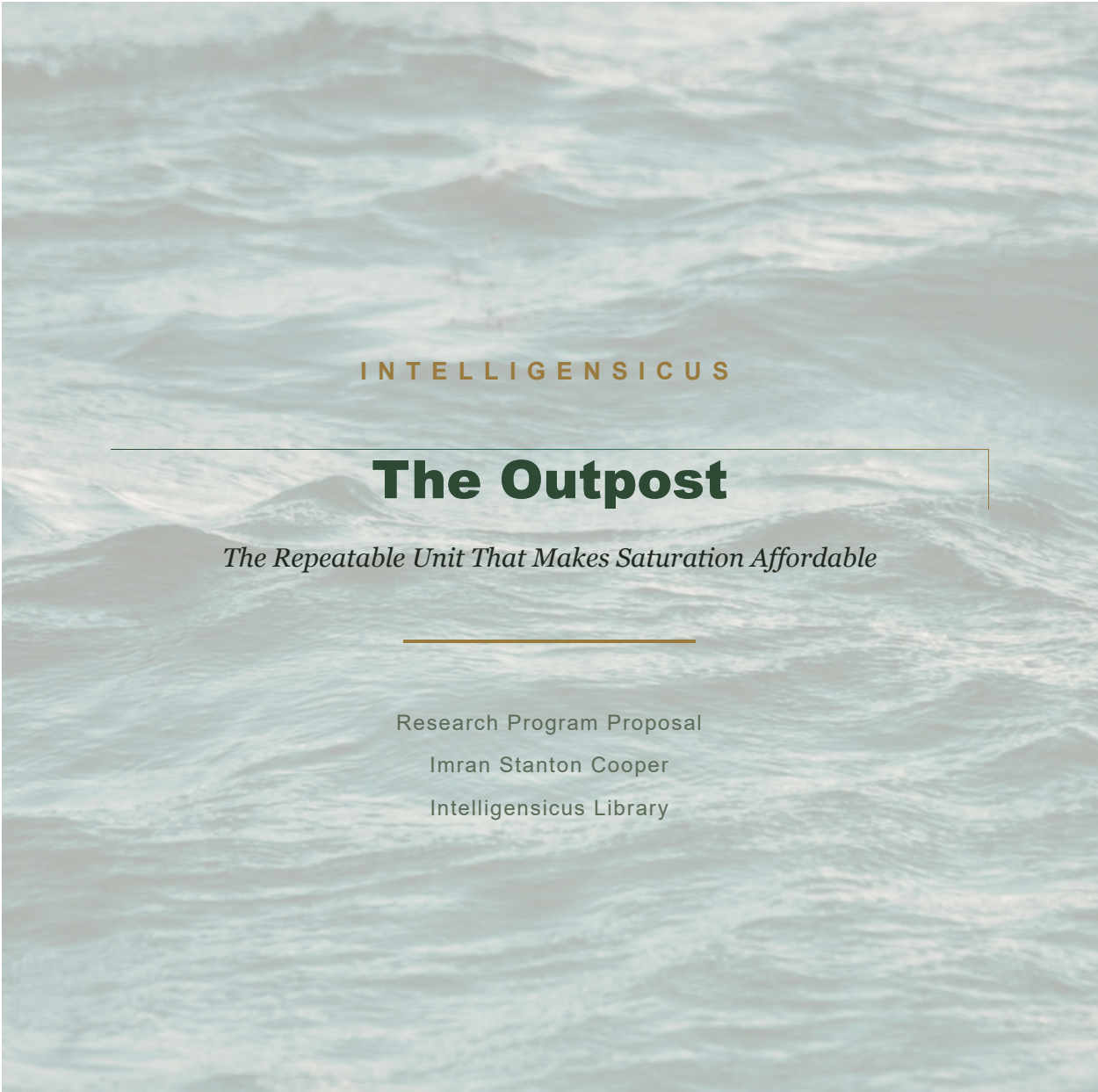
CETACEAN

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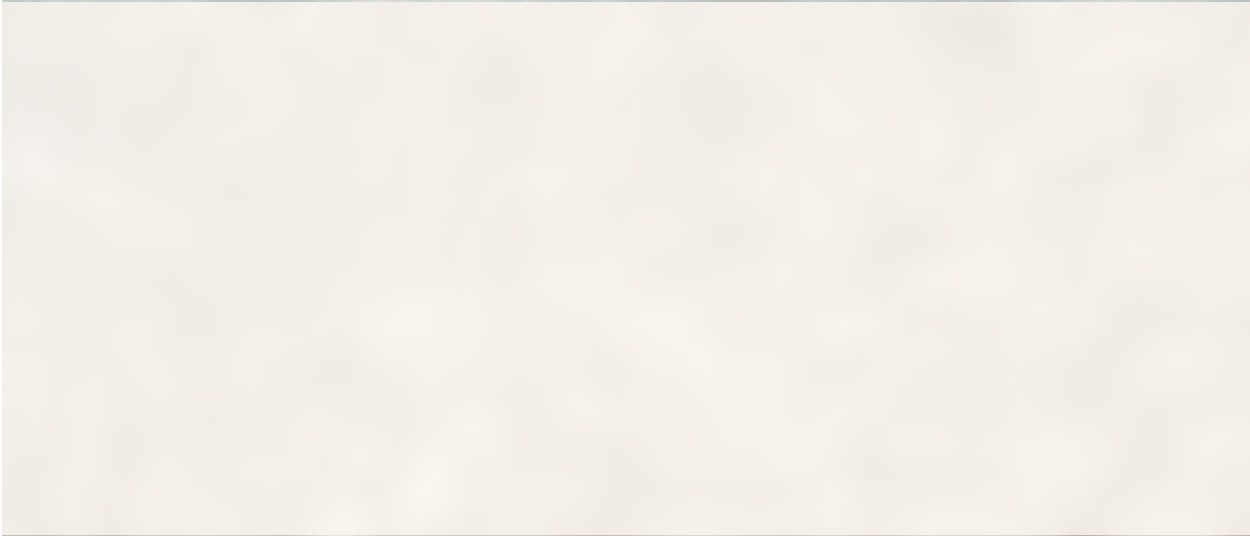
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Intelligensicus Library



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01 WHY THE OUTPOST IS THE PROGRAM

A wild population's intelligence does not move because a few animals at one clever site improve. It moves when the method reaches enough of the population's range, and enough of its generations, that the gain becomes the population's own inheritance. That requires not one site but thousands, saturating the ranges of the served populations and running continuously across the generations a transmitted change takes to hold. A pilot proves the method. Only saturation produces the lasting effect on the species. So the outpost, the single repeatable unit of the program, is not a detail of the plan. It is the plan.

02 THE MOLD

Because the endpoint is thousands of outposts, the program is priced as a production run, not as a sequence of bespoke builds. The core cost strategy is the repeatable mold: the first unit of a design carries the tooling cost, and every unit after it is produced at a known, far lower marginal cost. This is the same economics the marine manufacturing industry already uses for molded hulls. A mature fabrication line delivers outposts at a predictable per-unit price, and the controlling number for the whole program is that marginal cost multiplied by the density a served range requires.

03 WHAT AN OUTPOST IS

A marine-box outpost is a stationary clear enclosure and its mooring, the cohort that runs the boxed tasks, near-shore vessel days, and the instrumentation that watches for transmission. The enclosure is clear one-inch cast acrylic, through-bolted with gasketed marine-grade fasteners and no structural glue. One-inch cast acrylic runs about twenty to forty dollars a square foot. A field enclosure of roughly six by four by four feet is about one hundred thirty square feet of acrylic, on the order of two thousand five hundred to five thousand dollars in material. A compact starter rig near three by two by two is closer to six hundred to thirteen hundred. The fasteners are 316 stainless at roughly thirty cents to a dollar and a half each, or titanium Grade 5 where seawater demands it, forty to a hundred twenty per enclosure. The land tracks substitute an aviary, a boxed-rig cluster, or a field station for the marine enclosure, but the logic is identical: a molded, repeatable unit at a known cost.

04 HABITAT BY DESIGN

The marine enclosures are engineered as habitat. Their submerged surfaces carry the texture and complexity that recruit oysters, mussels, and reef life, so a structure becomes habitat while it runs and leaves the water richer than it found it. This is why the marine work argues the net-ecological-gain posture rather than mere no-net-harm, and why the coastal-permitting path it seeks is the streamlined living-shorelines route, not the disfavored dredge-and-fill categories.

05 THE SCALING LADDER

The unit economics hold as the program scales, and the mold drives the per-unit figure down at the upper rungs. Read across the whole program, the founding unit is not a single box but a founding cohort: one flagship outpost from each lead track, lit together.

N = 1 cohort one of each flagship plan order \$2M-\$6M / year
N = 10 cohorts each flagship saturated across priority ranges order \$20M-\$60M / year
N = 100 cohorts every track fielded across many ranges order \$200M-\$600M / year
N = 1,000 cohorts multi-continent program order \$2B-\$6B / year
N = 5,000 cohorts approaching Alpha-Array range saturation order \$10B-\$30B / year
N = 10,000 cohorts outposts everywhere, run continuously order \$20B-\$60B / year

The ladder is unbounded at the top because an outpost does not finish and close. It runs continuously as a serial catch-and-release operation, processing new animals and new generations, so the endpoint is an annual operating figure for a standing global network, not a one-time capital sum. A single track fronts a bounded application at its own N equals one rung, which is what a first funder or host actually underwrites, while the master proposal carries the saturation-scale vision. Both are true at once, and the mold is what connects them.

Priced as a production run, because saturation is the mechanism.

INTELLIGENSICUS

*More intelligent life in the world, holding its own new
knowledge, of its own making.*

Intelligensicus • The Outpost

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