



OUR 2025 INVESTMENT

Hullbot



Last year we invested in Hullbot, an autonomous robotic hull cleaning solution, focusing on critical maritime decarbonization

Impact delivered in 2025

1157t
Linear resource
use avoided

4225tCO₂e
GHG emissions
avoided

The story

Founder Tom Loeffler and the Hullbot team share a passion for the ocean, and the team includes sailors, surfers, and divers. Tom noticed the problem that vessels are cleaned only rarely, in dry dock, but spend most of their working lives dragging a film of marine growth through the water. In 2014, Tom set out to fix it by using underwater robots.

Fouling drags on a hull and forces a ship to burn far more fuel, and the extra emissions are estimated at close to 1% of the global total. It also ferries invasive species between coastlines and sheds toxic anti-fouling chemicals into the sea. Given that over 80% of global goods are transported by boat, maritime decarbonisation is an important lever in reducing emissions associated with global consumption.

Hullbot's answer is to proactive and regular vessel cleaning. A fleet of small, agile autonomous robots, guided by computer vision, gently groom a hull before growth can take hold, sometimes several times a week, gathering real-time underwater data as they go. Keeping hull continuously clean, keeps it efficient. Hullbot delivers an average fuel saving of 15% across the fleet it services. It also removes the need for the harsh toxic coatings ships use today that can leach microplastics into the water. That is what makes Hullbot a Kick. It makes the existing customer fleet run more efficiently, delivered as a service that fits the demanding rhythm of global shipping.

What excites us



“Hullbot delivers hull maintenance as an autonomous service, a business model tailored to the unforgiving, complex operations of global maritime logistics. The team has gained commercial traction off the coasts of four continents, while amassing over two million litres in fuel savings over its lifetime. This list of accomplishments is incredibly hard to replicate... but it’s really not hard to get excited about what’s next for this team.”

Destana Herring
Principal