Olsen New Head of Kodiak Seafoods

Lifetime Kodiak resident Arnold "Ole" Olsen has been hired as president of Kodiak Island Seafoods, Inc., according to Jack Wick, chairman of the board of directors of the firm.

Olsen, under terms of a management contractual arrangement between the Native-owned salmon processing firm and Alaska Shell, Inc., will receive corporate management training as he assumes duties for total operations of the firm's salmon cannery located at Larsen Bay Village on the southwest shore of Kodiak Island. Olsen has a lifetime of experience in the practical aspects of fishing and seafood processing, having been born into a fishing family and worked as a fisherman and in canneries.

Olsen will serve as liason between management and the boards of directors as well as the fishermen and three village corporations which own the Kodiak-based firm.

A top priority for Olsen will be to take whatever actions are appropriate and necessary to assure that the firm will not be adversely affected through plant operation delays due to fish problems. "He will seek to establish a satisfactory price structure with the fishermen well in advance of the season," Wick said. "We are intent upon avoiding a repetition of the situation experienced this past season

which resulted in substantial reduction in fishing at the peak of the season and substantial reductions in income for both our fishermen and the firm," Wick stated.

Olsen, who pointed out that the firm is large in physical assets but low in financial resources, said he will begin immediately to work with fishermen to assure the avoidance of a confrontation situation.

Olsen, 30 years of age, was born at Afognak and is enrolled to Natives of Afognak, Inc. He and his wife Regina have one child, a daughter.