

**News Release**

12 April 2006

## **Guardian private cable maintenance continues expansion with Denmark to Russia cable maintenance win**

*Denmark's leading provider of communications solutions and Russia's national long-distance telecoms operator join Global Marine's Guardian private cable maintenance programme*

**Chelmsford, UK:** Global Marine Systems Limited, the independent market-leading subsea cable installation and maintenance company, is pleased to announce that TDC, the leading provider of communications solutions in Denmark, and Rostelecom, (NYSE: ROS; RTS, MICEX: RTKM, RTKMP), Russia's national long-distance telecommunications operator, have joined Global Marine's Guardian private cable maintenance programme.

Under the programme, TDC and Rostelecom will benefit from a dedicated, high quality and comprehensive fibre optic cable maintenance contract that is based upon mutually agreed performance metrics and a fixed price for the term of the agreement. The three year contract, which began on April 5<sup>th</sup> 2006, will provide both companies with total peace of mind that cable breakages, repairs and preventative operations are all carried out in a transparent and highly professional manner

Spanning 1,216 kilometres, the Denmark Russia 1 fibre optic cable has provided Russia with connectivity to Western Europe for the past 11 years and runs from Karlslunde, Denmark to Kingesep, Russia. It will be serviced by both Global Marine's CS Sovereign and CS Sentinel, which are based at Portland Port, Portland, UK.

Commenting today, Claus Nielsen at TDC said, "With Denmark's geographic position as a hub for telecommunications between eastern Europe and western countries, it was crucial that we selected a cable maintenance operator who could provide us with leading-edge industry know how and the complete peace of mind that our communications infrastructure would be in safe hands."

Deputy General Director Gennady Solovsky at Rostelecom added, "As both the volume of our incoming and outgoing international traffic continues to rise year on year, Global Marine's cable maintenance services are crucial in allowing us to accommodate the growing needs of our customers."

"Global Marine has worked with Rostelecom and TDC for some time on a consortium basis." said Chris Brooks, Director of Sales at Global Marine. "Increasingly private maintenance is becoming an important alternative for telecommunications providers who need to respond to increasingly complex market conditions. The Guardian private cable maintenance programme has consistently set an industry benchmark over the past 3 years in terms of level of service and transparency of costs which it provides cable owners and operators."

Brooks continued, "Importantly, the Guardian private maintenance product individually tailors the technical and commercial solution for each customers requirements; increasingly critical in today's changing maintenance market. Global Marine is delighted to welcome Rostelecom and TDC on this exciting contract which further develops our existing presence in the Baltic region."

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### **About Global Marine**

Global Marine, an independent marine engineering company, has been in business for well over 150 years and continues to be the pre-eminent provider of submarine cable installation and maintenance services in the world. Operating the world's largest fleet of cable ships and subsea vehicles, it is a market leader in marine cable installation and maintenance for telecommunications, as well as scientific research, oil, gas, utilities and the renewable energy sector.

Global Marine is headquartered in the United Kingdom with regional offices in the United States and Asia. The company has established strategic alliances with several of the industry's leading companies and has successful Joint Ventures and partnerships with SBSS in China (China Telecom), NTTWE Marine in Japan (NTT) and ICPL in Singapore (SingTel and ACPL).

Global Marine has installed more undersea fibre optic cables than any other operator, and more than 50% of the world's buried fibre-optic cables have been installed by Global Marine. And between 30 and 40% of all subsea cables repairs and maintenance are undertaken by the company.

Learn more at: [www.globalmarinesystems.com](http://www.globalmarinesystems.com)

### **About TDC**

TDC is the leading provider of communications solutions in Denmark, the second-largest telecommunications provider on the Swiss market, and moreover has a presence in a number of select markets in Northern and Central Europe due to its shareholdings in major companies.

Learn more at: [www.tdc.com](http://www.tdc.com)

### **About JSC Rostelecom**

JSC Rostelecom is a national long-distance carrier. The Company renders services on facility-based transport telecom network stretching over 200 thousand km. over the whole Russian territory. Rostelecom provides transmission of the bulk of domestic and international traffic as well as runs terrestrial network of TV and radio broadcasting channels. JSC Svayzinvest is the major stakeholder of Rostelecom that possesses 50.67 percent of voting shares.

Learn more at: [www.rt.ru](http://www.rt.ru)