

**News Release**

15 May 2006

NTTWEM and Global Marine Repair Tsunami Early Warning System for Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

Chelmsford, UK/Yokohama, Japan: NTT World Engineering Marine (NTTWEM), a NTT and Global Marine joint venture, and Global Marine Systems Limited, the independent market-leading subsea cable installation and maintenance company, have successfully completed the repair of a Tsunami seismic monitoring cable for the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC).

As one of the world's most earthquake-prone nations, Japan has considerable exposure to tsunamis and JAMSTEC's deep sea floor observatories form a critical part of the Japanese Government's wider coastal earthquake observation network.

In early 2006, JAMSTEC's long-term deep sea floor observatory off Muroto Cape on Japan's east coast experienced a cable failure on one its seismometer monitoring systems, which act as "listening devices" to help provide an early warning of tsunami activity. The integrated observation system at Muroto Cape provides continuous observation of tsunami activity and it is critical that it is working at all times, therefore, NTTWEM and Global Marine were called upon to conduct a rapid repair operation.

From initial inspection to post repair testing, the project was completed in just 11 days. By utilising Global Marine's CS Wave Mercury cable ship and specialist crew, NTTWEM inspected and repaired the cable at a depth of approximately 2,000 metres.

Tsuyoshi Komori at NTTWEM said, "NTTWEM and Global Marine's industry expertise and local knowledge were a natural fit for this project and, as contractor and sub-contractor, we provided a rapid and highly professional service that was also delivered within budget. The Muroto Cape continues to be a highly active region for tsunami activity and the observatory therefore plays a pivotal role in providing the Japanese mainland with an early warning of

earthquakes and enables JAMSTEC to collate scientific data which will have long term benefits for the whole of Japan.”

He added, “The repair of a Tsunami seismic monitoring cable was a new and exciting challenge for us and of critical importance for JAMSTEC. Due to our joint venture structure with Global Marine, we were able to pool both our knowledge of the region and cabling expertise to provide an effective solution and hope to be able to work again with JAMSTEC in the future.”

Further to the Muroto Cape Observatory, JAMSTEC’s tsunami observation network includes a seafloor observatory off Kushiro and Tokachi in the Kuril Trench. The Japanese Government’s wider tsunami observation network also includes facilities from the Japan Metrological Association (JMA), the Earthquake Research Institute, Tokyo University (ERI) and the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED).

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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

Global Marine also installed the fibre optic cabling for Canada's most advanced interactive seafloor observatory in November 2005 as part of the VENUS (Victoria Experimental Network Under The Sea) project.

Learn more at: www.venus.uvic.ca/

About NTTWE Marine

NTT World Engineering Marine Corporation (NTTWEM) is an NTT group company which separated from NTT Corporate and given its own identity in 1998. It provides the highest international standard of technologies in the field of installation and maintenance of submarine cable systems. NTTWEM has contributed to telecommunication industries by participating in submarine cable installation and maintenance projects not only in Japan but also in the Asia, Pacific and Atlantic regions.

In 1999, Global Marine Systems Limited became a shareholder, and through this alliance NTTWEM actively engages in major international projects.

Learn more at: www.nttwem.co.jp/english/nttwem_co_eng.html