

News Release

9 December 2005

Global Marine expands focus on Leasing

*Expanded range of purpose specific equipment
can be accessed through internet portal*

Chelmsford UK: Global Marine Systems Limited, the market leader in marine cable installation and maintenance for the telecommunications industry, is expanding its leasing division which gives businesses around the world access to an expanded range of Global Marine engineering equipment and resources. The range of equipment now available includes: Bight Release Hook, Diesel Power Pack, Generator sets, Lawson Caterpillar, Linear Cable Engine, Power Reeler, Running Line Monitors, Shallow Water Tow Winch and Underroll Stand.

An initial portfolio of equipment for lease, ranging from power generators to cabling layers can from today can be viewed online at:

<http://www.globalmarinesystems.com/leasing/index.asp>

Commenting today, Stephen Scott, Commercial Director at Global Marine said, "The expansion of our equipment leasing business illustrates our commitment to providing scalable and competitively priced solutions in what is a constantly evolving subsea engineering market." Scott added, "Leasing is a key part of the company's overall marine engineering capabilities and with ships and equipment stationed around the world, we are well positioned to meet the short and long term needs of our customers, partners and joint venture alliances, however, diverse."

Equipment leasing forms a core component within Global Marine's broader range of capabilities, which enables the company to manage complete subsea cable system planning, installation and maintenance, for a variety of markets. Its ships, submersible vehicles and burial tools can operate in every ocean, serving the needs of a truly international customer base. A full list of Global Marine's capabilities can be found at:

<http://www.globalmarinesystems.com/capabilities.asp>

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About Global Marine

Global Marine (a wholly owned subsidiary of Bridgehouse Marine) has been in business for well over a century and a half and continues to be the pre-eminent provider of submarine cable installation and maintenance services in the world. Operating with the world's most advanced 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.

Its developments in state of the art geographical information systems and computer mapping technology play a vital part in the drive for greater system security.

Global Marine has installed more undersea fibre optic cables than any other operator. 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