News Release
8th February 2006

Global Marine presents *The VENUS Experience* at Scientific Submarine Cable (SSC) 06'

Global Marine Updates on Pioneering Research Project at
Fourth International Workshop on Scientific Use of Submarine Cables

Chelmsford UK / Dublin Ireland: Global Marine Systems Limited, the independent market-leading subsea cable installation and maintenance company, is pleased to announce that its Director of Engineering, Dr Phil Hart, will be presenting *The VENUS Experience - A Case Study of the Philosophy, Design & Implementation of an Undersea Observatory Network in Coastal British Columbia* at 11.10am on Wednesday 8th February at SSC06' in Dublin.

Launched in November 2005, VENUS (Victoria Experimental Network Under the Sea) is Canada's most advanced interactive seafloor observatory and represents a pioneering research project between the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Global Marine and the Canadian firm OceanWorks. VENUS pioneers the use of fibre-optic cabling technology to provide a real-time data feed of images, sound and scientific measurements from the sea floor which, from March 2006, can be viewed live over the internet. The project is based in the waters around Southern Vancouver Island, starting with the Saanich Inlet and will then move onto the Strait of Georgia.

With the Saanich Inlet part of the VENUS project due to go live within the coming weeks, Dr Hart's presentation will discuss how complex design philosophies and practical system requirements were, in what some may have considered an unlikely partnership between industry and academic worlds, translated into a functional and high specification undersea observatory that represents a step change for the world of marine science and oceanography.

Commenting today, Dr Hart said, "VENUS is first and foremost a science driven project and one of the key challenges of the project was to take the original *VENUS vision* and translate it into a meaningful design solution that could meet the required functional requirements." He added, "This was Global Marine's first subsea observatory project but, as a company, we

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take great pride in being able to adapt our marine engineering solutions to new and exciting opportunities and are keen to be an active player in the broader underwater observatory market."

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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
View the VENUS project unfold live during March 06' at www.venus.uvic.ca

About SSC06'

SSC'06- the Fourth International Workshop on Scientific Use of Submarine Cables and Related Technologies will take place at Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland from 8th to 10th February 2006.
Since the Third International Workshop was held in Tokyo, Japan in 2003, significant progress has been made in this field. Several new scientific cabled observatories are in an advanced planning stage, and plans to reuse retired optical submarine telecommunication cables have been advanced.

The Fourth Workshop will provide a forum for the exchange of information between managers, scientists and engineers working internationally in the earth and ocean sciences, and underwater technology. The latest scientific results using submarine cables and new technologies to enable versatile submarine cable networks will be included among the topics, and should be of interest to all participants.

Learn more at: www.ssc06.com