

**News Release**  
17 October 2005

## **Global Marine to participate in Trafalgar celebrations at Portland Port**

*A local event to commemorate the life of England's most beloved Admirals.  
In the years that have passed since the  
Battle of Trafalgar, his reputation has not been surpassed.*

**Chelmsford:** In further celebration of the 200th Anniversary of Vice Admiral Lord Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar, Global Marine's ocean-going cable ship, the CS Wave Sentinel captained by Charlie Smallshaw, will be open to the public from 12.30 to 16.30 on **Saturday 22nd October.**

Visitors will be able to embark upon tours of the Ship in Portland where, once on board, there will be a presentation of the engineering processes used in installing and repairing fibre optic cables, a live "jointing" demonstration, a marine quiz and the opportunity to also meet the team that reacts to put broken underwater Trans- European/Atlantic communications cable back into full service.

2005 has been designated the Year of the Sea and this event at Portland Port is just one in a programme of activity throughout the UK, which has been organised to commemorate Britain's naval heritage and celebrate its future as one of the world's leading maritime nations. As part of these wider activities, Global Marine's CS Sovereign was involved in the Trafalgar 200 International Fleet Review in The Solent on Tuesday 28th June 2005, where over 150 vessels from Navies spanning some 40 countries took part.

Commenting today, Gabriel Ruhan, Global Marine's Managing Director said, "As a British marine company with an enormous heritage that dates back over a century and a half, the Year of the Sea events are hugely important to us. I am delighted that Global Marine is participating in the Portland Port celebrations, which provide us with another exciting opportunity to mark the historic events of 200 years ago and allow members of the general public to gain a first hand insight into our business."

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## **About Global Marine Systems Limited:**

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

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

## **About Portland Port Group:**

The Portland Port Group comprises two sister companies. Portland Port Limited (PPL) have operated the commercial port since the closure of the Royal Naval Base on 1st April 1996. Portland Harbour Authority Limited (PHAL) have been the statutory harbour authority since the demise of the Dockyard Port and departure of the Queen's Harbour Master on 1st January 1998.

The Port has the world's largest and most modern marine cable storage and maintenance facility and is the home port for Global Marine cable ships Sovereign and Wave Sentinel. It is extensively used by the Royal Fleet Auxiliary as a maintenance base and by visiting warships of the Royal Navy and NATO navies, as well as for trials and training by UK shipbuilders and overseas navies. Portland Port recently signed an agreement with the Commander-in-Chief to provide two deep water berths for a five year period, with the option of extension to seven years.

Weekly short sea freight services operate between Portland and the Channel Islands. Bulk cargoes handled include peat, timber, steel and agricultural products. The Port first became the UK terminal for RMS St Helena, servicing UK dependencies in the South Atlantic, in 2002 and the ship will next return to Portland on 29th October. A number of cruise ship calls are made each year.

The berths have been used by ships undergoing refit and repair and its strategically located, well protected deep water harbour has encouraged an increasing number of owners and managers to send their ships for underwater inspections, propeller cleaning, and hull repairs.

The above ground Mere Tank Farm, supplied by CONOCO, is a versatile facility providing Marine Gas Oil (MGO) bunker fuel by pipeline direct to all berths and an inland distribution depot for diesel and kerosene. Greek-owned Portland Bunkers International Limited have recently renovated the four underground tanks and built a new jetty on the Inner Breakwater to provide, in conjunction with BP, as the supplier of MGO and Fuel Oil, bunker services to ships at anchor in the Inner and Outer Harbours.