

VT HALTER MARINE DELIVERS NINTH ARTICULATED TUG BARGE (ATB) UNIT FOR CROWLEY MARITIME AND HOSTS CHRISTENING

The *Innovation/650-9* is built under the ABS SafeHull program for environmental protection

Pascagoula, Miss. – August 10, 2010 – VT Halter Marine Inc. (VT Halter Marine), a subsidiary of VT Systems Inc. (VT Systems), today announced the delivery and christening of an Articulated Tug Barge (ATB) unit at its Mississippi-based Pascagoula Operations. The ATB is the ninth of ten 185,000-barrel barges and tugs built for Crowley Maritime Corporation's subsidiary, Vessel Management Services, Inc (Vessel Management Services). The vessels christened were the Tug, *Innovation*, and the Barge 650-9. The 185,000-barrel barge was built at VT Halter Marine's Pascagoula Operations while the 9,700-hp tug was built at its Moss Point Marine Operations.

The 650-9, like its sister vessels the 650-1 thru 650-8, is certified by ABS Classification Society to comply with the International Maritime Organization's (IMO's) Green Passport program. This certification ensures that all potentially hazardous materials that are part of the original construction of the barge were identified and will be properly disposed of when the barge ceases trading at the end of its useful life.

All of Crowley's ATBs are built under the ABS SafeHull program for environmental protection. In this program, the vessel design underwent an exhaustive review to identify structural loads and strengthen the vessel structure. The 650-Class barge measures 587 feet in length, 74 feet in breadth and 40 feet in depth. It has a fully loaded draft of 30 feet and a 27,000 dwt capacity.

VT Halter Marine plans to deliver the tenth ATB unit under this contract during the first quarter of 2011. In addition to the ten 185,000-barrel 650 series barges, VT Halter Marine has a separate contract with Vessel Management Services to design and build three 330,000-barrels 750 series ATB barges..

"We are very pleased to celebrate the delivery and christening of the tug Innovation and barge 650-9 with our longtime partner VT Halter Marine. We look forward to providing safe and reliable operation to our customer, Chevron, with these vessels."

**~ Ed SCHLUETER
Vice President, Vessel Management Services, Crowley Maritime**

"It is with great pride that we deliver this ninth in a series of ten ATB units and host the christening ceremony. VT Halter Marine values the continued trust Crowley Maritime Corporation has in our shipbuilding capabilities."

~ Bill SKINNER
Chief Executive Officer, VT Halter Marine

VT Halter Marine is the marine operations of VT Systems. Based in Pascagoula, Miss., it is a leader in the design and construction of medium-sized ships in the United States. VT Halter Marine designs, builds and repairs a wide variety of ocean-going vessels such as patrol vessels, oil recovery vessels, oil cargo vessels, ferries, logistic support vessels and survey vessels. Please visit www.vthaltermarine.com.

VT Systems is a diversified company providing integrated engineering solutions to the commercial and government markets in the aerospace, electronics, land systems and marine sectors. VT Systems innovative solutions, products and services include aircraft maintenance, repair and modification; software solutions in training and simulation; satellite-based IP communications technology; network solutions that integrate data, voice and video; rugged computers and computer peripheral equipment; specialized truck bodies and trailers; weapons and munitions systems; road construction equipment; and ship design and shipbuilding. Headquartered in Alexandria, Va., VT Systems operates globally and is a wholly owned subsidiary of ST Engineering. Please visit www.vt-systems.com.

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