

ION Launches Gator II Command & Control for Seabed Seismic Acquisition Announces First Sale of New System to Seismic Contractor COSL

HOUSTON – May 24, 2011 – ION Geophysical Corporation (NYSE: IO) today announced the commercialization and first sale of its next generation Command and Control system for seabed seismic data acquisition, Gator[®] II. Since it was first deployed in 1996, Gator has been the leading navigation and seismic control system in the market for seabed, transition zone, and electromagnetic data acquisition. Gator II includes advanced capabilities that can further increase operational efficiency and improve source and receiver positioning, enhancing resolution and data quality. The company announced its first sale of the system, made to China Oilfield Services Limited (COSL), a leading integrated oilfield services provider in the offshore China market.

Gator II product enhancements include:

- A new central data management platform designed to provide operators with a survey-wide perspective and single point of control for more complex, multi-vessel operations and geometries
- More simple, automated workflows designed to increase productivity
- New, more rugged, flexible portfolio of hardware suitable for harsh environments
- Real-time survey optimization and advanced source and receiver positioning for unrivaled data quality, efficiency, and safety

Des Flynn, Vice President of ION's Concept Systems group, commented, "ION has had a long and mutually beneficial relationship with COSL. We are pleased COSL selected Gator II based on both their positive experiences with Gator and the new functionality we will deliver. We look forward to collaborating closely with COSL to successfully deploy this system in their multi-vessel seabed operation this summer."

For more information about the advanced capabilities of Gator II, visit iongeo.com/gator.

About ION

ION Geophysical Corporation is a leading provider of geophysical technology, services, and solutions for the global oil & gas industry. ION's offerings allow E&P operators to obtain higher resolution images of the subsurface to reduce the risk of exploration and reservoir development, and enable seismic contractors to acquire geophysical data more efficiently. Additional information about ION is available at www.iongeo.com.



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The information included herein contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Actual results may vary fundamentally from those described in these forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements reflect numerous assumptions and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. These risks and uncertainties include risk factors that are disclosed by ION from time to time in its filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.