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NEWS ALERT

## **ION's Orca Installed on 50<sup>th</sup> Marine Seismic Vessel** Industry-leading Command and Control System Achieves Milestone

**HOUSTON, TX – September 19, 2011** – ION Geophysical Corporation (NYSE: IO) today announced that it has achieved a milestone 50<sup>th</sup> installation of its Orca<sup>®</sup> Command and Control system, on BGP's 12-streamer *Prospector*. Since its introduction just six years ago, Orca has been used to manage towed streamer seismic data acquisition operations on nearly half of all vessels in operation around the world. Orca recently surpassed its popular predecessor, ION's Spectra<sup>®</sup>, in market share.

ION attributes Orca's rapid success to the system's advanced capabilities for high-end 3D and complex survey operations. Des Flynn, Vice President of ION's Concept Systems group, commented, "The introduction of Orca's advanced seismic data acquisition capabilities has made previously impossible operations achievable. Whether the objective is to achieve high quality repeatability for a 4D survey, execute the most challenging survey geometries for wide azimuth surveys, or simply manage the data of upwards of 20 streamers and multiple vessels, Orca's new survey-wide architecture and capabilities make it possible."

Orca integrates acquisition, positioning, source, and QC systems' data management and control into a seamless platform, streamlining visibility and control to help operators safely and effectively execute challenging geometries and multi-vessel operations, while delivering simple, efficient processes for 2D and 3D acquisition. The system's automated workflows are designed to contribute to significantly more efficient seismic operations through reduced downtime, minimal infill, lower costs, and shorter cycle time.

Orca is used by the world's leading seismic contractors, many of whom have long-term, multi-year agreements, including Polarcus, PGS, CGG Veritas, Fugro, COSL, Dolphin Geophysical, JOGMEC, DMNG, Reflect Geophysical, and most recently, BGP.

To learn more about Orca, visit [iongeo.com/orca](http://iongeo.com/orca).



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### **About ION**

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