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[NEWS RELEASE]

ION Provides Update on FireFly Deployment in East Texas

Super-major E&P Client Gives Go-Ahead for Full-Field Seismic Project

HOUSTON – JULY 21, 2009 -- ION Geophysical Corporation (NYSE: IO) today announced that its super-major E&P client has sanctioned the next phase of a high channel count, multicomponent (full-wave) seismic acquisition program in northeast Texas. Data acquisition of the first phase began in May 2009 using a 6,100 station (18,300 channel 3C) FireFly[®] recording system from ION. The E&P company's two primary goals in the initial phase of the program were to generate a seismic data volume that would assist in optimizing the acquisition parameters for an anticipated full-field seismic project and to test FireFly's recording capabilities using Vibroseis energy sources.

Jim Hollis, President and COO at ION, commented, "I believe the Phase I FireFly deployment provided a highly favorable outcome by demonstrating FireFly's potential as a high production seismic acquisition system. FireFly performed to our client's specifications in Vibroseis mode, helping them to acquire a high quality, multicomponent seismic data volume in a challenging operating environment in an efficient, HSE-friendly manner. The full-field phase of this program involves an even larger FireFly system, roughly 10,000 stations (or 30,000 3C channels)."

Dawson Geophysical, Inc., America's leading provider of onshore seismic data acquisition services, was awarded the contract to acquire the data both for Phase I and the full-field program.

According to Dave Wisniewski, Vice President of Dawson, "Dawson has a long history working with remote seismic recording systems. We are glad to be among the early contractors to deploy the FireFly system on a commercial project. This area of East Texas presents numerous acquisition challenges, as the region is interspersed with farms, forests, swamps, road crossings, and mining operations. We appreciated the hands-on field support that ION provided to our crew and look forward to working on the full-field project."

To learn more about FireFly, visit: www.iongeo.com/FireFly



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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 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.

About Dawson

Dawson Geophysical Company is the leading provider of U.S. onshore seismic data acquisition services as measured by the number of active data acquisition crews. Founded in 1952, Dawson acquires and processes 2D, 3D, and multi-component seismic data solely for its clients, ranging from major oil and gas companies to independent oil and gas operators as well as providers of multi-client data libraries. Additional information about Dawson is available at www.dawson3d.com.

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