

**For Immediate Release**

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Oceans '06 Publicity Co-Chair**

Revolutionizing Marine Science and Technology:  
MTS/IEEE Oceans 2006 Boston is Ready to Welcome over 2500

*A Message from MTS/IEEE Oceans 2006 Chairman, John Irza*

The week of Oceans'06 Boston kicks-off on Monday, September 18-September 21 with a lineup of tutorials and workshops during the day and concludes with advance registration and a welcome reception in the evening.

Tuesday September 19 will mark the official commencement of the Technical Program and opening of the Exhibition Hall. The Tuesday morning plenary session will focus on Ocean Observing Systems and will feature Dr. Margaret Leinen, the Assistant Director for Geosciences at the National Science Foundation, Dr. Richard Spinrad, the Assistant Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Dr. Jose Achache, the Group on Earth Observations GEO Secretariat Director.

Wednesday's plenary will focus on the theme of Oceans'06, "Revolutionizing Marine Technology." A great deal of technical innovation has sprung forth from the mission-driven challenges of developing and deploying advanced technologies in the world's oceans.

Wednesday evening will feature the Oceans gala which will be held at the Boston Museum of Science. The entire Blue Wing of the museum is reserved for our use as well as the "Theatre of Electricity". Our Canadian partners will be providing the pre-gala reception at the Museum.

The final official day of technical sessions and exhibition will be on Thursday. A brown bag lunch and tour of the exhibit hall will be provided for secondary school students and educators, offering them an opportunity to be introduced to marine technology in a hands-on manner.

According to Technical Chair, Vince Premus of Oasis, Inc., 500 abstracts were received by the technical program committee for OCEANS'06 MTS/IEEE – Boston. The committee is in the final stages of the review process and they expect to accommodate 390 papers in the final program; 100 of which are coming from countries such as Norway, Canada, Italy and Australia.

The technical program will have a very strong representation in a number of hot topic areas, foremost among those being Coastal and Ocean Observatories. Sonar signal processing will also be prominently featured, particularly in the areas of Synthetic Aperture Sonar, Vector Sensor Array Processing, and Acoustic Communications. All three of these technical areas are experiencing resurgence in funded research in the defense and commercial sectors. Additional areas expected to be well represented will include Oceanographic Instrumentation, Gliders and AUV applications, Aquaculture Engineering, and Current Measurement and HF Radar.

Exhibits Chairman, Mike Stewart, of MJ Stewart Associates, reports, "the exhibit area is filling up and currently we have 72 companies and organizations that have reserved 114 booths. We expecting to end up with 175 to 200 booths by showtime. There are several larger pavilions that

will be representing NOAA, Hawaii Ocean Science & Technology, Government of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador”.

To shine a light on all the students in the greater Boston area, we will have an enlarged student poster area. Thirty reviewed college student posters will be on display from entries all over the country. Hundreds of students are expected to visit Oceans 2006 in search of career opportunities. Adjacent to the poster sessions will be displays of unmanned AUVs and ROVs developed by students. There is also a concerted effort underway to have education and research institutions represented in the exhibit hall. There will be two sponsored coffee breaks each day in the exhibit area, which will bring welcome “traffic” to the exhibit hall. On Tuesday evening, there will be a wonderful reception held in the exhibit hall toward the end of the day.

*Exhibitors Showcase:* This year the highly successful Exhibitor Product Showcase that attracted standing room only audiences at Oceans 2000 in Providence has returned. All exhibitors are invited to submit abstracts and then full papers to the Exhibitors Showcase track. This tract will provide exhibitors with a scheduled time to give talks or demonstrations on their new technology, applications, or programs. Space is limited and abstracts will be reviewed by a technical panel. Abstracts are due no later than July 15, 2006. Submit to: <http://www.ocean06mtsieeboston.org> Contact: M. L. Merrill 781 740 1456; [martrep@aol.com](mailto:martrep@aol.com), or Bob Lobecker at 401-847-9297; [Robert.lobecker@verizon.net](mailto:Robert.lobecker@verizon.net).

*Canadian Connection:*

OCEANS’06 is shaping up this year to have a large connection with the Canadian Marine Technology industry, in advance of next year’s OCEANS’07 in Vancouver, and ’08 in Quebec City. The Canadian Consulate in Boston has signed on as a major sponsor of the conference. They will have a 10 booth pavilion and are heavily marketing Canadian companies to show their products and services at the Exhibition, taking advantage of booth discounts negotiated as part of their sponsorship agreement. They are confident of attracting 25 Canadian companies to the show. In addition, the Government of Newfoundland will have a 9 booth pavilion and is expecting 5 to 10 companies from their Province to come. Finally, the Government of Quebec is developing a marine technology cluster located around Remouski on the Saint Lawrence River, and has made inquiries about booth space and discounts.

To register, to obtain exhibit information, to submit an Exhibitors Product Showcase abstract, to make reservations for accommodations and to inquire about sponsorship opportunities go to [www.oceans2006.org](http://www.oceans2006.org).

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