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*****For Immediate Release*****

Shearwater Marine Group Announces Freight Flagship “*Central Coaster*” Returns to Service after Extensive Refit.

Vancouver, British Columbia | August 12, 2015

After several months of efficiently serving customers with a temporary tug and barge solution, Shearwater Marine Group announced that the substantial upgrades and modifications to the *Central Coaster* are complete and it was re-launched August 12, 2015 with a dedication ceremony in Richmond led by Shearwater’s Chairman - Craig Widsten.



90’ of New Hull/Deck – includes a 30’ increase in length overall (120’ to 150’)

Since 2008 the *Central Coaster* – recognized as one of the most reliable and efficient vessels to routinely serve the central coast of British Columbia – has delivered deck cargo, freezer, cooler, dry stores, propane, gas, and diesel to coastal communities, fishing lodges, logging camps, and other commercial customers between Port Hardy and Hartley Bay.

The new and improved *Central Coaster* now features:

- 90’ of New Hull/Deck – includes a 30’ increase in length overall (120’ to 150’)
- Double-Bottomed Hull – improved safety for transportation of fuel
- New Scania 400hp Diesels – increased speed and fuel efficiency
- A 15-ton capacity Seven Stars Pedestal Crane with 70’ boom – greater reach and load.



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“We are extremely excited to have the Central Coaster running again. The modifications to the vessel represent a significant upgrade, effectively placing the Central Coaster in a class of her own as the only ‘Class Inspected’, Transport Canada Certified, self-propelled oil tanker on the Coast of British Columbia” says Mark Schlichting, CEO and President of Shearwater Marine Group. “These combined upgrades clearly define Shearwater’s intention to be the best in the freight and fuel delivery business along the Central Coast of BC.”

Today’s launch is actually the second phase of an overall reinvestment to the Marine Operations division of Shearwater Marine - with phase I occurring in 2010. Both Arrow Marine Services and Canron Western Constructors have been hard at work to complete the hull sections for phase II, while Shearwater’s Project Manager Brad Widsten and his team have worked around the clock to ensure a speedy return to service



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The Central Coaster tastes the water again.

"I am so excited to tell our existing and new clients about the Central Coaster being back in service" said Vida Friesen, Freight Manager in Port Hardy. "We have worked extremely hard to keep our customers satisfied during the refit, and now we can reward them with our increased capacity and improved service!"

During the refit Shearwater Marine serviced the *Central Coaster's* route using its own tug and barge combination (the *Gulf Rival* and *Radium 620*), supplemented by a leased 1,000hp twin engine tug (Amix's *Finlay*) and a second barge. While it was 'business as usual' during the refit, the project completion is eagerly welcomed as Shearwater experiences greater demand for its freight service and its reputation for unparalleled service continues to grow.

About Shearwater Marine Group

In addition to its Freight and Marine Services division, Shearwater Marine Group (<http://www.shearwater.ca>) also operates a full service Marine Resort (includes hotels, conference facility, bar & grill, moorage, fuel dock, water taxi fleet, sport fishing lodge, shipyard with travel lift, marine store, and grocery store) on Denny Island near Bella Bella. Founded in 1947, Shearwater Marine Group is a privately held Canadian company.

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