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RIVERHAWK MARINE ACQUIRES MARINE TRAVELIFT 300C HOIST COURTESY OF U.S. STIMULUS GRANT

STURGEON BAY, WI (April 21, 2010) – Marine Travelift Inc. announced today that Tampa, Florida-based RiverHawk Marine has acquired one of its 300C mobile boat hoists, thanks in part to a Small Shipyard Grant from the U.S. Maritime Administration. The Small Shipyard Grants program is administered by the Office of Shipyards and Marine Engineering in Washington D.C.

According to Frank Hohenhouse, RiverHawk's director of operations, the decision to purchase a Marine Travelift from the Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin-based manufacturer rested on reputation and quality.

"We considered a competitor's lift, but it turned out to be not what we were looking for," Hohenhouse said. "I used to manage Palmer Johnson's Savannah yard, and we had a Marine Travelift there. I went back to Marine Travelift because of their reputation. I know the machines last forever and hold their value."

RiverHawk's 7.5-acre facility on West Tyson Avenue in Tampa is known as one of the best-equipped small shipyards in the Southeast. Strategically located with easy deep-water access from the Gulf of Mexico, the yard accommodates vessels up to 200 feet in length with drafts up to 14 feet for in-water repairs; it can handle vessels up to 160 feet for more extensive projects that require haul-out.

For land-based repair and refit work, RiverHawk features more than 60,000 square feet of undercover facilities and a 32,000-square-foot construction and repair building, which houses six separate construction bays, an enclosed paint bay and an interior refinishing booth.

Hohenhouse said RiverHawk's business mix encompasses both commercial vessels and private yachts, but at the moment, the U.S. Coast Guard is keeping the yard especially busy.

"We've got so many government vessels, we're concentrating on that right now," he explained. "But over time, we will service a broad range of commercial and private vessels."

RiverHawk purchased the Marine Travelift 300C last fall. The Marine Travelift is currently the largest such machine on Florida's Gulf Coast, and Hohenhouse anticipates that it will make a significant difference in the yard's operations.

"We're in the process of expanding to the property next door, as needed," he explained. "We can build ships here. With the Marine Travelift, I can move the vessels around when I need to, which allows us to maximize our use of space for construction, service and storage. This will also create many more job opportunities in the Tampa area."

To learn more about RiverHawk Marine, visit www.rhmtampa.com. For more information about Marine Travelift and its full range of mobile boat hoists, e-mail the sales team at sales@marinetraavelift.com or visit www.marinetraavelift.com.

The world's first mobile boat hoist was conceptualized and manufactured in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, in 1945. Officially established in 1954, Marine Travelift Inc. has a long-standing reputation as a marine industry leader and is recognized for its tradition of excellence on a global scale. The company manufactures mobile boat hoists, marine forklifts, self-propelled transporters and other related marine lifting products, and it has an extensive U.S. and international dealer network. In fact, with more than 3,500 units in service worldwide, Marine Travelift's international sales and support beats its nearest competition by nearly a factor of six.

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