



MERMAID MARINE  
AUSTRALIA LTD

28 September 2011

The Listing Manager  
Australian Securities Exchange Ltd  
Level 4, Stock Exchange Centre  
20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

**CORPORATE OFFICE**

Endeavour Shed, 1 Mews Road  
FREMANTLE WA 6160  
PO Box 715, SOUTH FREMANTLE WA 6162  
T (+61) 8 9431 7431 F (+61) 8 9431 7432  
E corporate@mma.com.au  
W www.mma.com.au  
ABN 21 083 185 693

**“Mermaid Vigilance” – Claim arising from Tropical Storm “Nate”**

The “Mermaid Vigilance” is currently on charter operating in the Gulf of Mexico as a sub-contracted vessel on the TSIMIN TOJUAL 3D Project (**Project**). The Mermaid Vigilance is set up as a cable-laying vessel and is engaged on the Project to support the seismic operations.

On the 8 September 2011, tropical storm “Nate” struck the Gulf of Mexico with winds gusting up to 93 knots and waves in excess of 20 metres in height. The Mermaid Vigilance, carrying a total of 30 crew and passengers was caught in this storm and the Master of the vessel was forced to take evasive action to protect the personnel on board.

The crew of another vessel (a lift boat) involved in the Project abandoned their vessel during the storm and sadly four personnel lost their lives. Whilst these personnel were involved in the Project, none of these personnel were employed by Mermaid Marine or were on a Mermaid Marine vessel.

Two of the survivors who abandoned the lift boat have filed claims against Mermaid Marine (and other parties involved in the Project) in the United States District Court, for the Southern District of Texas. A claim has also been filed by the family of one of the deceased personnel.

Mermaid Marine has sent a team to Mexico to investigate the incident.

Mermaid Marine has notified its insurers of these claims. Mermaid Marine denies and will defend these claims. Mermaid Marine considers that it is adequately covered, both by its insurances and the contractual indemnities it has, in relation to these claims and any other claims which may arise out of the incident.

Commenting on the incident Mermaid Marine Managing Director, Jeff Weber, said “*We are all deeply saddened by the tragic loss of the four personnel and our thoughts and sympathies are with their families, friends and colleagues*”.

**For further information please contact:**

Mr. Jeffrey Weber, Managing Director  
(08) 9431 7431

**MERMAID MARINE ASIA PTE LTD**

81 Tras Street, SINGAPORE 079020  
T (+65) 6220 7388 F (+65) 6223 7383

**DAMPIER SUPPLY BASE**

MERMAID SUPPLY BASE PTY LTD  
PO Box 822, KARRATHA WA 6714  
Mermaid Road, DAMPIER WA 6713  
T (+61) 8 9183 6600 F (+61) 8 9183 6660

**BROOME SUPPLY BASE**

TOLL MERMAID LOGISTICS BROOME PTY LTD  
PO Box 3401, BROOME WA 6725  
Lot 549 Port Drive, BROOME WA 6725  
P (+61) 8 9194 4200 F (+61) 8 9194 4299