



The Marshall Islands Registry

## **Republic of the Marshall Islands Registry Focuses on Strong Growth in the Offshore Sector**

*Singapore, 27 November 2012*

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Registry is one of the world's premier quality maritime registries that is globally recognized as a modern and efficient administration and is noted for its contributions to the safety and security of shipping and efforts to protect the marine environment. International Registries, Inc. and its affiliates (IRI) provide administrative and technical support to the RMI Maritime and Corporate Registries. The RMI Registry is the third largest in the world surpassing 87 million gross tons and 2,780 vessels by the end of October 2012. Vessel types include, among others, oil tankers, LNG/gas carriers, bulk carriers, passenger vessels, container ships and yachts. An increasing group of vessels in the RMI fleet includes mobile offshore drilling, production and service units.

The RMI Registry, as ranked by Clarkson's Offshore Intelligence Monthly, is the third largest flag State of the world's offshore fleet. Over the past five years, the RMI Registry's mobile offshore fleet has grown by nearly 71% in terms of gross tonnage. Several of the world's largest drilling companies have chosen the RMI Registry due to its industry knowledge and outstanding customer service. The RMI Registry considers its customers and staff of qualified personnel to be integral to the success of the Registry.

Charles McHardy, who joined IRI's Houston office in November 2011 as Vice President, Technical, has an extensive maritime background working for over 30 years with Det Norske Veritas (DNV), last serving as Manager, Maritime Gulf District. Mr. McHardy is currently responsible for the RMI Registry's worldwide offshore fleet. While based in Houston, Mr. McHardy is highly involved with the Registry's global offshore customers and joins personnel from Asia, the Middle East, and South America in serving the growing offshore oil and gas industries. "The Registry's dedication to its growing offshore customer base is apparent through its expanding presence in key offshore sectors," said Mr. McHardy. "This provides owners and operators local access to regulatory and technical assistance for offshore operations," he continued. "Singapore is a hub for the offshore industry in the region and home to a growing number of owners as well as technical and financial companies focused on oil and gas operations. For the RMI Registry, it is important to continue supporting the specialized needs of offshore clients in Singapore, a country whose owner and operator base maintains a significant segment of the Registry's fleet," concluded Shawn Tan, Country Manager of IRI's Singapore office.