



### **BSEE Sponsors "Ice Month" at Ohmsett**

Herndon, VA - While there exists proven response equipment which can contain and recover oil spills from vessels, pipelines, and exploration and production facilities in offshore Arctic regions, there remains a need for its continuous testing and evaluation. To meet this need, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) is sponsoring "Ice Month" at Ohmsett - the National Oil Spill Research and Renewable Energy Test Facility from February 18 - March 15, 2013.

During this unique event, mechanical response equipment currently used or being evaluated for use by the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, and oil spill removal organizations will be tested in the tank under various simulated Arctic conditions using synthetic oil. Findings will be used to help improve mechanical response technologies, and to initiate the development of standards for the assessment of equipment recovery capabilities and efficiencies when used in broken ice environments.

###

OHMSETT – The National Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility provides independent and objective performance testing of full-scale oil spill response equipment and marine renewable energy systems (wave energy conversion devices), and helps improve technologies through research and development. It is the largest outdoor saltwater wave/tow tank facility in North America and is the only facility where full-scale oil spill response equipment testing, research, and training can be conducted in a marine environment with oil under controlled environmental conditions (waves and oil types).

The facility, located an hour south of New York City, in Leonardo, New Jersey, is maintained and operated by the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) through a contract with MAR, Incorporated of Rockville, Maryland.

**Contact:**

Jane-Ellen Delgado  
Sr. Marketing Communications Specialist  
MAR Incorporated/Ohmsett  
1803 Research Blvd., Suite 204, Rockville, MD 20850  
Phone: 301-230-4565  
[www.ohmsett.com](http://www.ohmsett.com)  
[jdelgado@marinc.com](mailto:jdelgado@marinc.com)