

RESEARCH VESSEL FOR TITANIC RESTORED BY JACKSONVILLE FIRM

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – November 11, 2008 – W&O, the nation's largest supplier of marine valves, pipe, fittings, engineered products and valve automation solutions, is proud to announce they have been selected as the exclusive pipe, valve and fitting provider for the refitting of the Atlantis II, a research vessel with ties to the Titanic.



W&O Participates in Restoring "Living" Maritime History

"Our work with the team that is restoring the Atlantis II directly connects W&O with a unique piece of history related to our own industry," said Jack Guidry, President and CEO of W&O. "We're honored to take part in the restoration of this significant piece of maritime past in our own backyard. Our engineered solutions and expertise, as well as design/build specialties, allow W&O to understand the needs of the restoration/support team and their mission.

The Atlantis II, which made 12 trips to the wreckage site of the Titanic in 1986 to recover images using the

Alvin submarine sonar system, was retired in 1996 after 33 years of service, leaving behind an outstanding historic legacy.

To this day, the Atlantis II holds the world record for the longest research vessel voyage based on mileage and length of days at sea. The vessel has traveled more than one million miles, spending a record-breaking 8,100 days at sea. In addition, the Emperor of Japan and his son stayed aboard the Atlantis II for a week, and NASA named the "Space Shuttle Atlantis" in remembrance of this great ship.

"Had W&O existed in the early 1900's, the Titanic was a project that we probably would've bid on!" continued Guidry. "The sinking of the Titanic is one of the most well-known tragedies at sea, and the Atlantis II undoubtedly unearthed many of the wreckage's images that we see and learn from today."

Restoration began on the Atlantis II in October 2007 and is expected to be complete January 2009 at an estimated budget of \$2 million. Once complete, it is anticipated the ship will be used for oil and gas exploration, entering yet another industry in which W&O is involved.

The restoration includes thousands of feet of Schedule 80 pipe, as well as thousands of fittings, valves, couplings, unions, flanges, bushings and nipples that were provided during the ongoing project.

The Atlantis II is currently docked at St. Johns Boat Yard in Jacksonville, Fla., and is captained by Captain David Allan, a retired airline pilot with a love for the sea and the Atlantis II.

ABOUT W&O

Founded in 1975, W&O is the nation's largest supplier of valves, pipe, fittings, engineered products and automated valve systems for the marine and offshore industries. Headquartered in Jacksonville, Fla., the company has 15 nationwide stocking locations along with international locations in Belgium and a branch in Rotterdam due to open the first quarter of 2009. W&O is committed to providing integrated solutions for the marine industry, including the U.S. Navy, commercial shipping companies, barge owners, cruise companies, offshore industry and shipyards all across North America and Europe. W&O is owned by Pon Holdings, a private Dutch firm. For more information about W&O, visit www.wosupply.com.

ABOUT PON

Pon is an international trading group engaged in a wide variety of activities, which can be divided into two overall groups: Pon Automotive and Pon Equipment + Power Systems. Pon supplies products that complement each other in terms of type and quality. Pon employs over 9,000 people at some 500 branches distributed throughout eleven countries.