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For Immediate Release

### **First of Ten GPA 654 PSVs Launched by Bollinger Shipyard**

Seattle, WA - Guido Perla & Associates, Inc. announced today that Bollinger Shipyard in Lockport, LA has launched the first of ten GPA 654 PSVs ordered by Rigdon Marine in January 2006. With this multi-vessel order, Rigdon's GPA-designed fleet has increased to 20 PSVs, including 8 GPA 640s.

The design of the DP2- and FFV1-certified GPA 654s, measuring 54 meters in length, incorporates greater operating efficiency compared to similar sized vessels, increased cargo capacities resulting from locating propulsion generators to above main deck, as well as reduced construction cost due to simplified construction methods.

Destined to serve deepwater offshore operations, the GPA 654s are capable of carrying 144 cubic meters of bulk material and 652 cubic meters of liquid mud in self-cleaning oval tanks. As a result of the vessel's diesel-electric propulsion configuration, fuel efficiency is increased, thus resulting in cost savings, lower emissions and higher reliability.

GPA's priorities are client satisfaction and crewmember safety. In addition to the reduced construction cost and fuel efficiency, the owner benefits from the highest safety standards and comfort levels, which allows offshore operations to be conducted without risk to the health or security of crewmembers.

Upon delivery of the last of the ten vessels, the number of GPA 654 PSVs operating worldwide will increase to 34 vessels, including 24 currently under construction at Dayang Shipyard in China for Bourbon Offshore.

**Guido Perla and Associates, Inc. was founded in 1979 and is recognized as a world leader in naval architecture and marine engineering.**

**\*Photo courtesy of Bollinger Shipyard.**

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