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For Immediate Release

### **GPA's platform support vessel fleet expanded again**

Seattle, Washington - Guido Perla and Associates, Inc. (GPA), announced today that French marine services provider Bourbon Offshore has placed a second order for 14 GPA 654 Platform Support Vessels (PSV).

The design of the additional vessels is identical to a previous order Bourbon placed in 2006 for 10 GPA 654s, which are currently under construction at Dayang Shipyard in China.

All 24 GPA 654 PSVs are destined to serve the replacement market operating in the continental offshore segment, yet the characteristics of the vessels make them excellent support vessels for deepwater offshore operations. The GPA 654 is currently the smallest of the GPA series, which range in size from 54 meters to 90 meters in length.

The DP2- and FFV1-certified GPA 654 PSVs, measuring 54 meters in length, are capable of carrying 144 cubic meters of bulk material and 652 cubic meters of liquid mud in self-cleaning oval tanks. By virtue of the diesel-electric propulsion configuration, increased fuel efficiency results in cost savings, lower emissions and higher reliability.

The configuration of the diesel-electric propulsion system with three Z-Drives and three main propulsion generators creates full redundancy of major components and allows for operation on two engines and two Z-Drives, resulting in an ease of maintenance on major propulsion components, thus increasing reliability.

Bourbon also places emphasis on the increase of cargo capacities resulting from locating propulsion generators to above main deck, as well as the elimination of propulsion shafting.

Dynamic Positioning Class 2 not only improves station-keeping at offshore installations, thus creating full redundancy of major components, but also improves safety for crewmembers.

With this new contract, the number of GPA 654 PSVs on order has increased to 42 vessels worldwide.

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

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