



**KONGSBERG**

*For Immediate Release  
29<sup>th</sup> January 2015*

## **INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANY KONGSBERG MARITIME EXPANDS LOUISIANA OFFICE AND TRAINING FACILITY**

(Saint Rose, LA) January 29, 2015 -- Leading international technology company, Kongsberg Maritime announces that it has made a major investment in Louisiana with the purchase of approximately 5.2 acres for new construction on an 82,980 sq ft office and training facility. Construction on the James Business Park property located on James Drive East in St. Rose, Louisiana is scheduled to begin this spring.

Celebrating 200 years in business in 2014, Norwegian conglomerate Kongsberg Gruppen, parent company of Kongsberg Maritime, has manufacturing facilities and offices in more than 25 countries. Kongsberg Maritime is the world's leading supplier of dynamic positioning systems, marine automation and control systems, subsea navigation systems and surveillance systems for all vessels and offshore facilities.

Kongsberg Maritime moved its service department from Houston to Louisiana in 2003 establishing a small office in James Business Park with 9 full-time employees. Growing together with local customers, the Louisiana office now has 110 employees occupying 35,000 sq ft of leased office space. KONGSBERG will still have its HQ for the US in Houston, TX. The company determined a need to expand its space to accommodate future growth of the service department as well as a new training facility to better serve its growing number of regional customers traveling to Houston for technical training and licensing.

"Despite a low oil price and a downturn in the offshore markets, we believe the market will bounce back as it always does. We believe in the future of the GOM offshore market, which is why we are now investing in a large Louisiana technical support center and a new training facility," stated Kongsberg Maritime Inc. President, Jon Holvik. "Our regional customer base has grown significantly and it

is important to continue to offer them the world's best service facilities, close to their operation."

In early 2014, KONGSBERG assembled a team of commercial real estate specialists including David Buescher and Jeff Venghaus of Houston-based JLL (Jones Lang LaSalle) and Richard Juge, president of locally owned RE/MAX Commercial Brokers to assist with the expansion plans.

"It became apparent that building a new office from the ground up to facilitate Kongsberg Maritime's needs offered the most favourable long-term financial solution," stated John Roberts, JLL Executive Vice President for Project and Development Services.

KONGSBERG closed on the property for an undisclosed amount in mid-December 2014. The 3-story Class A building will be built on approximately 3 acres; the remaining acreage will be reserved for future expansion. The facility will include a 3,800 sq ft state-of-the-art training centre, expansive office space to accommodate the company's growing staff to service vessels and offshore facilities in the region, a project department including a lab for Factory Acceptance Testing and a large lab area for internal training of KONGSBERG service personnel.

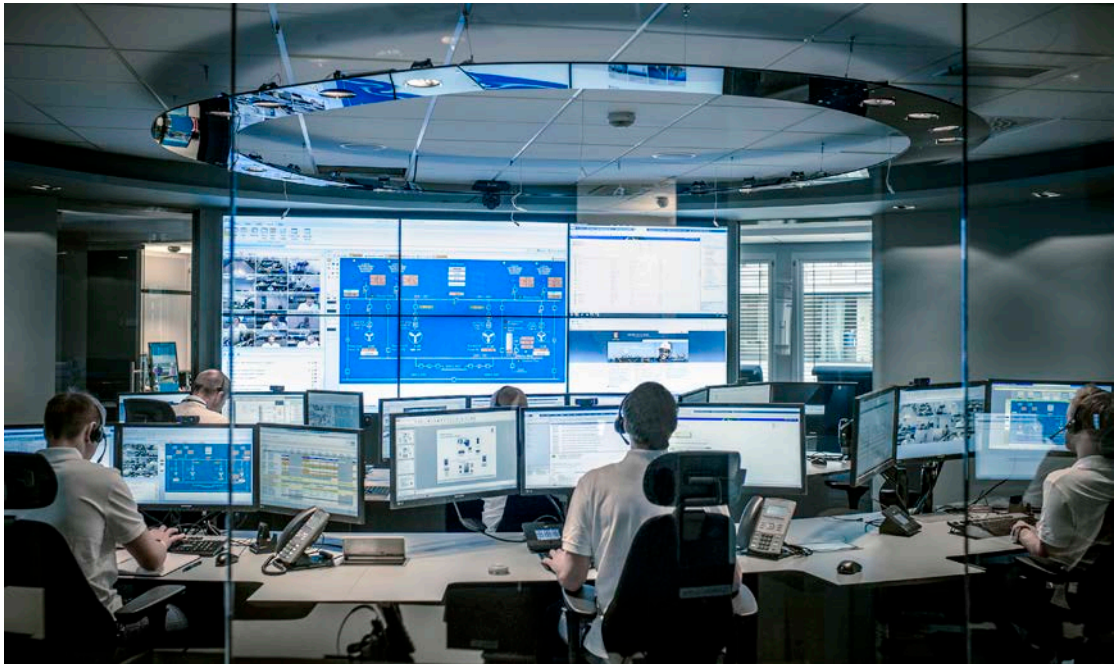
"KONGSBERG has a history of investing and innovating during hard times," stated Holvik. "This building demonstrates our long-term dedication to providing convenient, world-class products and services to our customers in the region."

St. Charles Parish President V.J. St. Pierre, Jr. added, "I am extremely excited with KONGSBERG's decision to continue to be a member of our business community. The company is the perfect example of the type of business we aspire to attract to St. Charles Parish. It was my top priority to retain them (KONGSBERG) in order to ensure that our residents have the opportunity to gain access to high-paying jobs that add to the diversification of our local economy."

Kongsberg Maritime, Inc. Louisiana office is currently located at 150 James Drive East, St. Rose, LA 70087, phone (504) 712-7906. The web address is [www.km.kongsberg.com](http://www.km.kongsberg.com).



*Kongsberg building rendering*



*Kongsberg support center model*

###

**For further information, please contact:**

Jon Holvik  
**Kongsberg Maritime Inc.**  
Tel: +1 713 329 5580  
[jon.holvik@km.kongsberg.com](mailto:jon.holvik@km.kongsberg.com)

Jacque Bonano  
**JB Communications, LLC**  
Tel: (504) 512-0147  
[jacque@jbcommunications.net](mailto:jacque@jbcommunications.net)

## **About Kongsberg Maritime**

Kongsberg Maritime is a global marine technology company providing innovative and reliable technology solutions for all marine industry sectors including merchant, offshore, subsea and naval. Headquartered in Kongsberg, Norway, the company has manufacturing, sales and service facilities in 20 countries.

Kongsberg Maritime develops systems for vessels covering all aspects of automation, control, navigation, safety and dynamic positioning. Subsea solutions include single and multibeam echo sounders, AUV/underwater navigation, communication, and camera systems. Marine and offshore training simulators, LNG solutions, information management, position reference systems and technology for seismic and drilling operations are also part of the company's diverse technology portfolio.

Kongsberg Maritime delivers solutions that cover all aspects of technology underwater and on the water, aboard new build and retrofit vessels, and on offshore platforms and rigs, often under a single supplier strategy called *The Full Picture*.

Kongsberg Maritime is part of Kongsberg Gruppen (KONGSBERG), an international, knowledge-based group that celebrated 200 years in business during 2014. KONGSBERG supplies high-technology systems and solutions to customers in the oil and gas industry, the merchant marine, and the defence and aerospace industries.

[www.km.kongsberg.com](http://www.km.kongsberg.com)

*This press release can also be downloaded from the Saltwater online press office at [www.saltwaterpr.com](http://www.saltwaterpr.com)*

## **Photo Captions**

### **(Photo-1-Kongsberg-SJBP-BuildingRendering.jpg)**

*Construction will begin on Kongsberg Maritime's new 82,980 sq ft office and training facility in James Business Park.*

### **(Photo-2-Kongsberg-supportcentermodel.jpg)**

*The new Louisiana Technical Support Centre will model after KONGSBERG's innovative facility in Norway.*