



**SAVE THE DATE:
MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 11H00-13H00
BIOMARINE PRESS CONFERENCE IN MARSEILLE ON BOARD OF
"THE YACHT"**

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Press Release

Scripps Institution of Oceanography partners with BioMarine to put the world spotlight on the oceans

Lyon, 10 July— BioMarine, the official maritime event of the French Presidency of the European Union, will be held 20-24 October in Toulon and Marseille, France. The Scripps Institution is partner for this first edition of BioMarine.

According to Tony Haymet, director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography, at the University of California, San Diego, «BioMarine will put the world spotlight on the oceans. World-class scientists with expertise on climate change and the oceans are participating in this European marine forum to focus attention on local impacts and global consequences. The health of the entire planet is at stake and by focusing on issues relevant to ocean pollution, maritime policy, coastal use, and global warming; we will highlight the importance-- and the value--of the oceans for all inhabitants on Earth.»

The Scripps Institution brings to BioMarine an expertise of over one hundred years of existence, with some 300 programs and 1,300 staff members. Scripps Institution is the foremost American research center focusing on marine sciences and ocean research. Scripps is both a partner and an advisor to BioMarine.

"Through BioMarine, the European Union is taking an impressive and powerful role in bringing together key leaders from science, business, and society who can advance the efforts to restore ocean health, preserve and protect local marine resources, and promote responsible maritime ventures. This vital and integrated European forum is both timely and crucial in addressing the most critical issues facing our ocean environment today", adds Tony Haymet.

At the first edition of BioMarine in France this year, key players will discuss issues pertaining to the sea and the oceans. The United States, as a high seas maritime power and naval force, will be present at the event specifically in discussions of geopolitics,





ocean security, who owns the Arctic, sustainable development and global warming--key issues targeting a cooperative action among states.

The success of this first meeting of BioMarine will be to establish meaningful dialogue between different institutions, political actors and civil society. One area key to discussions will be an update on Space technology, specifically the status, as of this date, of the new satellite Jason-2, bringing together United States and Europe. France is especially active in the use of satellite technologies to better understand the oceans.

Mr. Haymet concludes: "BioMarine offers a new kind of global conversation on the oceans, one that connects scientists with leaders in industry and political life. We will be addressing some of the most crucial issues facing our planet today, such as the health of the oceans and the preservation of fragile marine ecosystems. More than that, BioMarine will focus on issues that closely impact society, including transport across the seas, fisheries, coastal tourism, and ocean pollution. The ocean science community considers this forum to be an extremely important opportunity to address concerns that will impact the life of our oceans and the destiny of our planet."

BioMarine 2008 will address energy, environment, and resources as well as political, economic and security aspects of marine and maritime issues.

This event is made possible thanks to the generous financial support and strong mobilization from BioMarine institutional partners that will welcome the event on their territory: the General Councils of the Bouches-du-Rhone and the Var, the Urban Communities of Marseille and Toulon, and the Province of Marseille. BioMarine is an initiative of the National Science Foundation of Lyon, France. It is under the leadership of Pierre Erwes, President and Founder, BioMarine.

For more information about BioMarine and for press accreditation, please visit our website at www.biomarine.org, or can contact directly Barbara Erskine, at barbara@barbaraerskine.com, phone (4179) 202 4528.

