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## **BC FERRIES EXPANDS GREEN MARINE CERTIFICATION TO FLEET MAINTENANCE UNIT**

VICTORIA –BC Ferries’ fleet maintenance unit received its first Green Marine certification last night, during the environmental program’s 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference. BC Ferries’ vessels and terminals have been Green Marine certified since 2015, when the company first joined the program but the shipyard certification is a new achievement, showing a commitment to continue to benchmark environmental performance and make continuous improvements.

Green Marine is a globally recognized, voluntary, industry sustainability initiative for ship operators, ports, terminals and shipyards. It enables participants to reduce their environmental footprint by fostering a culture of continual improvement and exceeding regulatory compliance.

“Achieving this certification for all our diversified operations reinforces our existing commitment to the environment and ensures we will continue to look for ways to apply best practices and be a leader in sustainable marine transportation,” said Mark Collins, BC Ferries’ President & CEO.

“Including all their activities in the program clearly reflects a strong commitment from BC Ferries towards the greening of their operations. It will also significantly help us achieve our objective, which is to advance environmental excellence for the marine industry in general,” said David Bolduc, Green Marine’s Executive Director.

BC Ferries’ newly certified fleet maintenance unit directly employs 158 people, including tradespeople and technicians, completing an average of 22 vessel refits each year. The facility provides approximately \$30 million of vessel repair, maintenance and upgrades annually with as many as five afloat refits taking place concurrently. The facility contains a complex of workshops engaged in highly skilled ship repair activities such as machinery rebuilding, structural repairs, lifesaving system re-certification and coatings. The facility provides approximately 30 per cent of BC Ferries’ annual ship repair needs, including maintenance services and repairs for unplanned events. This strategic asset helps ensure the reliability of our fleet with the ability to complete repairs in-house to continue providing the best possible service to coastal communities.

The Green Marine environmental certification program addresses key environmental issues through 11 performance indicators such as greenhouse gases, air emissions, spill prevention, waste management, environmental leadership, and community impacts – some applicable to shipping activities, other to landside operations.

Under contract to the Province of British Columbia, BC Ferries is the service provider responsible for the delivery of safe, efficient and dependable ferry service along coastal British Columbia.

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