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Boom® web site provides world-class products for world-class solutions

Averting Environmental Disaster for the Galapagos Islands

Bridgewater, MA - You can find anything you need on the Internet if you know where to look.

The Ecuadorian Navy was in need of spill control products and with a search of the Internet, they located the Web site of BOOM® Environmental Products (www.boomenviro.com) headquartered in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Boom Environmental Products and its affiliates have been manufacturing in Massachusetts for 85 years. They produce geotextiles, absorbents, oil containment booms, turbidity curtains, landscape fabrics, engineered nonwovens and needled blankets. In addition, BOOM® supplies erosion blankets, geomembrane liners, containment products, stormwater/wastewater management equipment, and many other world class environmental and geotechnical products.

According to BOOM®'s president, Reuben Weinstein, in January, 2001, the cargo ship "Jessica" carrying a load of 160,000 gallons of diesel and 80,000 gallons of bunker fuel ran aground near the coast of San Cristobal in the Galapagos Islands. The Ministry of the Environment, the



Ecuadorian Navy, the Charles Darwin Research Station and The Galapagos National Park, working with the local community and international experts, worked to avoid an environmental catastrophe.

"Thanks to the quick response, the environmental contamination caused by the Jessica spill was widespread but minimal," Weinstein said, "Today, while the follow up and recovery efforts continue, the Ecuadorian Navy has created a contingency management plan for future spills."

Weinstein continued, "After reviewing other firms, the Navy purchased over \$200,000 of equipment from BOOM® Environmental Products that they thought

they would need for the one location."

Weinstein added, "However, after talking to me about the spill and their subsequent response, officials realized that training to use the equipment was also necessary."

"An associate Patrick Brady, president of OMS Environmental Corporation (OMS) and I provided consultant services and training to the Ecuadorian Navy for the further development of a pollution control containment and recovery equipment stockpile," Weinstein explained.

Weinstein said, "This project involved partnering with the Navy in an international tender request, purchasing, delivery and commissioning

of new equipment, and conducting a training in Spanish for the presentation of the Oil Spill Prevention and Control Course (OSPAC) in Guayaquil, Ecuador."

"With the assistance of BOOM®, the Ecuadorian Navy has fully appreciated the need to custom fit each naval stocking facility with not only the right equipment but also proper training," Weinstein said, "The Navy is very confident that with BOOM®'s guidance, future environmental accidents will be contained and the pristine waters of the Galapagos Islands will be protected."

Weinstein continued, "This is not the first time BOOM® has been called upon to assist in a high profile, environmental project. In 1989, BOOM® supplied its award-winning absorbents to the Valdez Alaskan oil spill to assist in the major cleanup of beaches and environmentally sensitive areas."

"BOOM® absorbents have been used on flights of the US Space Shuttle and Space Station. BOOM®'s clients include the US military, major municipalities and Fortune 500 companies," Weinstein concluded.