AutoMATE Marine Systems, LLC www.automatemarine.com Waltham, MA 02154 USA

Phone: 617-.817-5977 info@automatemarine.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact:

John C. Herther (President/Chief Engineer)

Phone: 617-.817-5977

Breakthrough Ship Autopilot Add-on Saves Fuel *Green Technology Solution Reduces Shipping Costs and Carbon Emissions*

Stamford, CT (CMA Shipping 2012 Conference) – March 20, 2012 –The price of oil has already soared to over \$100/barrel. Since fuel is over 30% of their operating costs, shipowners are keenly aware of this rise in energy costs and are looking for technology market based solutions to increase shipping efficiency.

DIGIPILOT is a "smart autopilot add-on" that optimizes ship's rudder movement providing significant reduction in fuel costs and environmental impact. **DIGIPILOT** benefits include:

- √ 1-3% fuel savings which increases profit 6-12%
- ✓ Shorter voyage time due to increased speed
- ✓ Lower CO2 Carbon emissions footprint

DIGIPILOT is primarily engineered for ships of 10,000 grt and larger in which adaptive steering control and very slow controlled turns can provide annual fuel savings of approximately \$250,000. The patent-pending algorithms work in all sea states including rough seas, and is easily installed as an auxiliary on existing ships having standard autopilots.

DIGIPILOT reduces rudder action by removing wave motion effects on control resulting in fuel saving and a slight increase of speed from less rudder and hull drag; experience indicates that this increase in fuel savings is on the order of 1 to 3%; so the equipment payback is a small number of months. Twenty of these adaptive autopilot systems have been sold for use on a variety of ships.

AutoMATE Marine Systems, LLC was incorporated to resume production of its industry leading DIGIPILOT. AutoMATETM products leverage 13 years and \$6 million of pioneering development cost from the founders' previous company on \$41M sales of bridge automation systems on 550 ships that experienced 60 million hours of at sea automatic operation. Patent(s)¹ on improved technology of sensors, algorithms and control solutions are included in the re-hosting of software for today's faster marine computer/displays, add-on ARPAs and ECDIS.

¹ **DIGIPILOT** - Fuel saving rudder control system with optional **DIGIPLOT** Collision Avoidance/Anti-Grounding Maneuvering Aid Patent Pending with **US 61/632,221** Foreign License already Granted