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**Thrustmaster of Texas, Inc. delivers two 500HP outdrives to ADC International**

(3/23/01) -- Thrustmaster of Texas, Inc., based in Houston, Texas, supplied (2) modular portable hydraulic outboard azimuthing thrusters, Model OD500N, to ADC International for supply on their 240' research vessel, "The Ulysses".

The hydraulic power system is diesel engine driven closed loop hydrostatic transmission, providing infinite propeller speed control with high accuracy and excellent efficiency over the full speed range of the propeller. The hydrostatic transmission in combination with podded hydraulic drive (no gears) has a better overall efficiency than diesel electric, especially at partial load conditions. In the lower horsepower brackets, the acquisition cost of diesel hydraulic drives is lower than diesel electric drives.

Thrustmaster manufactures a wide variety of propeller thrusters up to 3,000 horsepower. They include tunnel thrusters, Z-drives and retractable azimuthing thrusters. They can be powered hydraulically, electrically or with direct engine drive.