

Marseilles, 5th April 2012

BOURBON has joined forces with Marseille-Provence 2013, European Capital of Culture, as Project Partner of the *Méditerranées, des grandes cités d'hier aux hommes d'aujourd'hui* Exhibition

BOURBON is pleased to announce that Jean-François Chougnat, CEO of Marseille-Provence 2013, and Christian Lefèvre, CEO of BOURBON, signed a partnership agreement this afternoon.

As a French shipping company in Marseilles, it's only natural that BOURBON has decided to support Marseille-Provence 2013, European Capital of Culture, by becoming a Project Partner of "Méditerranées". This major maritime exhibition tells the story of Mediterranean through the Mediterranean's major port cities.

An international leader in offshore oil and marine services, BOURBON have been based in Marseilles for over twenty years.

Through this partnership, BOURBON hopes to actively support local and regional figures in their efforts to develop and promote the city as the European Capital of Culture.

As a shipping company with a strong culture anchored in seafarers and their values, BOURBON has chosen to support a cultural event related to its own sector.

This partnership is also a great opportunity for employees at the Marseilles offices and those from other affiliates coming to the Phocian city to be part of an important cultural event.

Méditerranées will start the European Capital of Culture's year off with a bang. The exhibition will be on display from January 12th to May 14th in J1, an old shipping hangar that has been renovated for Marseille-Provence 2013.

Designed as a "fictional" exhibition, *Méditerranées* recounts major events in the history of Mediterranean civilisations with Ulysses, in the guise of a modern man, taking visitors from port to port.

This incredible journey through space and time covers 2500m² of containers and is suitable for all ages. The odysseys will take visitors to Tyr, Athens, Alexandria, Rome, Cordova, Venice, Genoa, Istanbul, Algiers, Tunis and Marseilles. Over a hundred items and projects will be on display: paintings, drawings, models, videos and photographs will bring the past and the present to life.

About Marseille-Provence 2013

2013 will be divided into three parts which will see the opening of new cultural facilities, artistic events (circus, dance etc.), major exhibitions and interactive events for everyone to enjoy.

Part 1 will take place between January and May: "Marseille Provence accueille le monde". This part focuses on the Mediterranean hospitality tradition and pays homage to urban cultures in all their forms (music, sport, literature, video and street art). The start of Marseilles' year as a Capital of Culture will also see major exhibitions and special events.

View the Capital's scheduled programme on: www.mp2013.fr

About BOURBON

BOURBON provides the most demanding oil companies with a comprehensive range of marine and subsea services for the offshore oil, gas and wind sectors. This variety of services is based on a large fleet of latest-generation vessels. This enables the group and its 27 branches to provide customers with a local service and operations which guarantee safety and the highest standards of service quality and safety worldwide.

BOURBON has two operating Activities (Marine Services and Subsea Services) and also protects the French coastline for the French Navy.

In 2011, BOURBON posted revenues of €1.008 billion and operated a fleet of 437 vessels.

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