



## NEWS RELEASE

### Signal Ship Repair (SSR) Completes The ACOE Dredge *Wheeler* Repowering

**Mobile, AL** – 17 OCT 2013 – Signal Ship Repair (SSR), a division of Signal International, Inc., recently redelivered to the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) the Dredge *Wheeler* after a major conversion.

The ACOE Dredge *Wheeler*, at just over 408 feet in length, is the largest hopper dredge in the Corps of Engineers' fleet of dredges. The repowering contract with SSR consisted of replacing the Cooper Bessemer main propulsion and dredge generator engines with modern Caterpillar C280 diesel engines. SSR installed new shafts, hubs, reduction gears and hydraulics. The ship's three service generators were replaced and the bow thruster received a new ABB variable frequency drive. The ACOE had EMS Marcon on-site to upgrade the propulsion control and monitoring system.

SSR worked closely with Ship Architects, Inc. to detail the major equipment removal and installation plans for the repowering project. SSR and Ship Architects also teamed to perform an ABS witnessed incline experiment and revised the Dredge *Wheeler's* stability documentation. Throughout the project, SSR worked closely with the *Wheeler's* home ACOE office in New Orleans, Louisiana and the ACOE Marine Design Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

#### **About Signal Ship Repair:**

Signal Ship Repair's (SSR) primary business is ship repair and conversion. Located in downtown Mobile, Alabama, the facility of 53 acres and 4,400 feet of waterfront operates one Panamax and one 4,500 ton dry dock. SSR offers mooring capability for vessels 1,000 feet (305 meters) in length.

For more information, contact: Joe Mayhall  
+1.251.544.2627  
[jmayhall@signalint.com](mailto:jmayhall@signalint.com)  
[www.signalint.com](http://www.signalint.com)

###