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Tru-Marine opens Houston service station

Singapore-based turbocharger repair specialist expands into US market

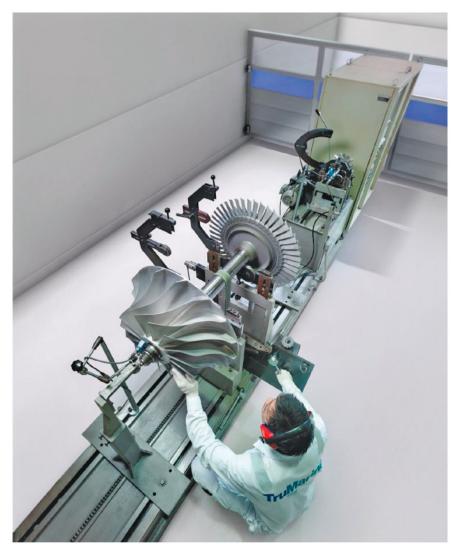
ru-Marine has expanded its global service coverage to the US. The initiative is intended to meet what it says is a growing demand for prompt and high quality turbocharger services from vessel operators calling at ports in the US Gulf region as well as customers' increasing requirement for integrated fleet-wide maintenance, repair and overhaul solutions.

Conveniently located in Deer Park, Texas, within a few miles of the port of Houston, Tru-Marine Houston is one of the largest turbocharger service stations in the area, providing a full range of services for turbochargers both on merchant vessels and offshore installations. The latest facility takes the Tru-Marine group's worldwide network to a total of seven service stations. As well as its home base in Singapore, Tru-Marine has turbocharger repair and maintenance centres in Shanghai, Tianjin, Guangzhou in China, the UAE port of Sharjah and Rotterdam in The Netherlands, which will now be supplemented by the Houston facility.

The main aim of the latest investment is to serve key marine as well as oil and gas producing units that operate from the Houston hub. In addition Tru-Marine Houston will be a base for mobile service engineers who will be able to attend to calls across the entire North, Central and South America region, including the Caribbean, carrying out repairs either afloat or while vessels are in port.

Tru-Marine has been offering turbocharger repair and refit solutions for around 37 years. The group represents a number of leading turbocharger manufacturers as their authorised repair shops, including Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Mitsui Engineering and Shipbuilding, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Kompressorenbau Bannewitz (KBB) as well as Napier Turbochargers.

Marketing manager, Pey Pey Soh says: "With constant innovation a key tenet at Tru-Marine since the 1990s, we bring to the American market strength in proprietary turbocharger reclamation technologies and a value proposition based on the economic and environmental benefits of repairing rather than premature replacing."



Tru-Marine is now offering a full range of services from its new facility at Deer Park, close to the port of Houston, including rotor blade balancing

Tru-Marine Houston will offer a wide range of services, from scheduled overhauls and reconditioning to in-situ emergency repairs. Its capabilities will include general overhaul and servicing, laser cladding reclamation, rotorshaft repairs, cover ring reclamation, the reconditioning of bearings and lubricating oil pumps, turbine blade repairs and the balancing of turbocharger rotors. It will also be able to supply an extensive range of turbocharger spare parts which will be stored at the Houston centre.

Tru-Marine has recruited Isaac Yohanan as general manager and director of the Houston facility. He will also take responsibility for developing Tru-Marine's service operation across the US and the Americas. He brings with him 20 years-plus of experience in leading global service organisations and in sales and marketing of marine-related products and services. "Tru-Marine's established market leadership, technical expertise, integrity and professionalism are recognised in the marine industry worldwide. With the opening of our first US service station in Houston, Tru-Marine's customers can expect enhanced service coverage with the same commitment to quality delivery as is entrenched worldwide," Yohanan says. *SPCT*