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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BP TURNS TO MELBOURNE COMPANY TO SECURE OFFSHORE PLATFORM

Company in Melbourne, FL Contracted to Develop High-Tech Plugs to be Installed by ROV's on BP's Massive Thunderhorse Platform in the Gulf of Mexico



Testing was successfully completed recently of a series of custom engineered hydraulic plugs that are a part of a \$3 billion refurbishment of Thunderhorse, a semi-submersible BP oil platform located 150 miles southeast of New Orleans. These giant pipe plugs were designed to be installed underwater by multi-million dollar Remote Operated Vehicles, or "ROV's". The plugs are used to reinforce existing pipe valves and to help secure the platform in the event of an evacuation due to hurricanes. The plugs incorporate both inflatable seals and hydraulic clamps, and must be able to be controlled by the arms of the ROV's. Syntactic Foam is also utilized in the body of the plugs to help neutralize negative buoyancy underwater, making them easier to handle. The larger plugs for up to 40" pipe are each worth as much as a new luxury car.

COB Industries, Inc. is a family-run private company in Melbourne, and the testing was completed at their facility under the supervision of a representative from BP. COB Industries has been contracted to supply a series of these plugs ranging from 4 inch through 40 inch.

COB Industries has been in business for 30 years, manufacturing and supplying specialty industrial equipment including pipe plugs, pipe freezing systems, specialized welding products and pneumatic tools.

If you would like more information about this topic or to schedule an interview, please contact Cletus O'Brien or Troy Palmer at (321) 723-3200 or email to sales@cob-industries.com



