



DRYSHIPS ANNOUNCES CLOSING OF FULL SETTLEMENT OF THE \$120M AFFILIATE LOAN

ATHENS, GREECE — August 14, 2015 - DryShips Inc. (NASDAQ:DRYS) (the "Company" or "DryShips"), a global provider of marine transportation services for drybulk and petroleum cargoes, and through its affiliate, Ocean Rig UDW Inc. ("Ocean Rig"), of off-shore contract drilling oil services, announced today the closing of the previously disclosed agreement with Ocean Rig to repay the remaining outstanding balance of \$80 million borrowed by the Company under the Amended and Restated Exchangeable Promissory Note dated June 4, 2015 between the Company and Ocean Rig (the "Note"). Definitive documentation including release letters has been executed, and the Company has transferred 17,777,778 shares of Ocean Rig previously owned by Company to Ocean Rig as full payment of the outstanding balance under the Note. Following this transfer, the Company's direct ownership in Ocean Rig is 40.4%.

About DryShips Inc.

DryShips Inc. is an owner of drybulk carriers and tankers that operate worldwide. DryShips also has an affiliate Ocean Rig UDW Inc., an offshore deepwater drilling services company, which owns and operates 13 offshore ultra deepwater drilling units, comprising of 2 ultra deepwater semisubmersible drilling rigs and 11 ultra deepwater drillships, 1 of which is scheduled to be delivered to Ocean Rig during 2016, 1 of which is scheduled to be delivered during 2018 and 1 of which is scheduled to be delivered during 2019. DryShips owns a fleet of 39 drybulk carriers, comprising 13 Capesize, 24 Panamax and 2 Supramax with a combined deadweight tonnage of approximately 4.3 million tons, and 4 tankers, comprising of 1 Suezmax and 3 Aframax, with a combined deadweight tonnage of over 0.5 million tons.

DryShips' common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market where it trades under the symbol "DRYS."

Visit the Company's website at www.dryships.com

Forward-Looking Statement

Matters discussed in this release may constitute forward-looking statements. The U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides safe harbor protections for forward-looking statements in order to encourage companies to provide prospective information about their business. The Company desires to take advantage of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and is including this cautionary statement in connection with this safe harbor legislation.

Forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and financial performance and may include statements concerning plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance, and underlying assumptions and other statements, which are other than statements of historical facts. The words "believe," "intend," "anticipate," "estimate," "project," "forecast," "plan," "potential," "may," "should," "expect" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements in this release are based upon various assumptions, many of which are based, in turn, upon further assumptions, including without limitation, management's examination of historical operating trends, data contained in our records and other data available from third parties. Although we believe that these assumptions were reasonable when made, because these assumptions are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies which are difficult or impossible to predict and are beyond our control, we cannot assure you that it will achieve or accomplish these expectations, beliefs or projections.

Important factors that, in our view, could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include the strength of world economies and currencies, general market conditions, including changes in charterhire and drilling dayrates and drybulk vessel, drilling rig and drillship values, failure of a seller to deliver one or more drilling rigs, drillships or drybulk vessels, failure of a buyer to accept delivery of a drilling rig, drillship, or vessel, inability to procure acquisition financing, default by one or more charterers of our ships, changes in demand for drybulk commodities or oil, changes in demand that may affect attitudes of time charterers and customer drilling programs, scheduled and unscheduled drydockings and upgrades, changes in our operating expenses, including bunker prices, dry-docking and insurance costs, changes in governmental rules and regulations or actions taken by regulatory authorities, potential liability from pending or future litigation, domestic and international political conditions, potential disruption of shipping routes due to accidents and political events or acts by terrorists.

Risks and uncertainties are further described in reports filed by DryShips with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

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