

**5-23-2006****Westlock Controls Wins \$1M Turnkey Automation Project with V.T. Halter Marine**

Pascagoula, Miss. – Westlock Turnkey Services completed the installation, startup and commissioning of the ballast control system for the first of 10 barges at the V.T. Halter Marine shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi this last March. Utilizing Westlock DeviceNet Control Monitors, Allen-Bradley PLCs and in house engineering expertise, the network was installed and operational in 9 days. The owner of all 8 barges is Crowley Maritime Corporation who provides diversified transportation services in domestic and international markets.

The barge design is certified to transport fuel oil or other petrochemicals on the open sea. Each barge is approximately 600 feet in length with an estimated carrying capacity of 184,000 barrels or 7.7 million gallons of product. Controlling the ballast is essential for maintaining the trim of the barge as it takes on or offloads product at different ports.

Building on the industry leading engineering capabilities that has made Westlock the leader in product innovation, Westlock Turnkey Services provided a complete automation package for the project. “Westlock gave us a single source of responsibility for the ballast control system,” said Bill Wilkerson, Project Manager for V.T. Halter Marine.

“They supplied us with all the hardware, media, controllers, cabinets, software, integration and startup services,” Wilkerson said. “Westlock personnel worked with the Coast Guard to insure a successful system sign off which is required before the owners buy the system,” he added.

Westlock Turnkey Services is assisting engineers and project managers simplify their mission by providing reliable single source solutions for network installations.

**ISO 9001:2000**