

Media Monitoring

Client: **Chemoil**
Publication: **Platts Commodity News**
Date: **January 5 2011**
Headline: **Singaporelisted Chemoil buys OceanConnect Marine for \$25 million**

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Singapore-listed marine fuel supplier Chemoil Monday said it has acquired OceanConnect Holding's marine fuel business for about \$25 million.

Also, effective January 3, OceanConnect's former chief executive officer Tom Reilly has been appointed as Chemoil's new CEO and director.

Mike Bandy, who held the dual role of chairman and CEO of the company, will remain as chairman and non-independent director.

The newly acquired business will continue to operate using the name OceanConnect Marine.

"The deal includes the acquisition of OceanConnect's marine fuel business, its independent online bunker auction portal, and a team of experienced bunker brokering and trading employees and staff in the US, UK, UAE, South Korea, Japan and Denmark," the company said.

According to Bandy, the addition of OceanConnect Marine is earnings accretive and complements its stable of business, which include GPSCemoil, ChemoilAdani, Burando, Galaxy and IPC (USA).

"It would increase Chemoil's annual sales volumes by 8 to 9 million mt, substantially expanding our presence in several key markets and strengthen our competitive advantage in providing speedy, cost-effective and highly reliable fuel supplies to shipping operators worldwide," Bandy said in the statement.

Meanwhile, Chemoil said the appointment of OceanConnect's Reilly as the company's new CEO is in line with the company's succession plans to put in place a strong leadership team to see Chemoil through a new era of growth.

It will also see a separation of the roles between chairman and CEO.

"I am pleased that our search for the next CEO has come to a successful close. Tom brings deep industry experience that will strengthen our bunker trading, risk product and brokering service teams," Bandy said.

In late November, Chemoil had announced that it had signed a deal to buy the marine fuel supply group of OceanConnect and make the CEO of the latter's parent company the new CEO of Chemoil.

Chemoil is itself 51.54% owned by Singfuel Investment -- a Glencore International unit -- and 37.5% owned by Japan's Itochu.