

Diamond Offshore Announces First Quarter 2015 Results

May 4, 2015

- Reports loss of \$1.86 per share
- Records impairment charge of \$319 million after tax, or \$2.33 per share
- Records restructuring charge of \$4 million after tax, or \$0.03 per share
 - Declares Regular Cash Dividend of \$0.125 per share
 - Announces plans to scrap three mid-water semisubmersibles

HOUSTON, May 4, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc. (NYSE: DO) today reported a net loss of \$256 million, or \$1.86 per share, in the first quarter of 2015, compared to net income of \$146 million, or \$1.05 per share, in the first quarter of 2014. Revenues in the first quarter of 2015 were \$620 million, compared to revenues of \$709 million in the first quarter of 2014.

Results for the quarter included a non-cash charge of \$319 million after tax, or \$2.33 per share, associated with the impairment of eight drilling units, three of which are to be retired and scrapped. The units to be retired are the mid-water semisubmersibles *Ocean Saratoga, Ocean Worker* and *Ocean Yorktown*, which are all cold stacked in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Other rigs included in the impairment group are the mid-water semisubmersibles *Ocean Ambassador, Ocean General, Ocean Lexington, Ocean Nomad* and the drillship *Ocean Clipper*.

The Company also recognized a charge during the quarter of \$4 million after tax, or \$0.03 per share, related to restructuring and employee separation-related costs.

"We have continued to implement cost savings measures while maintaining our focus on safe operations and delivering performance for our clients," said Marc Edwards, President and Chief Executive Officer. "Our first-quarter safety statistics were the best that we have recorded."

"During the second quarter, our next two newbuild drillships will begin working in the Gulf of Mexico, and the yard will complete our fourth drillship, which will also be headed to the U.S., where all four of drillships will work on term contracts extending into 2019 or beyond," added Mr. Edwards.

In addition, the Company announced that it has declared a regular quarterly dividend of \$0.125 per share, payable on June 1, 2015 to shareholders of record as of May 15, 2015.

CONFERENCE CALL

A conference call to discuss Diamond Offshore's earnings results has been scheduled for 7:30 a.m. CDT today. A live webcast of the call will be available online on the Company's website, www.diamondoffshore.com. Those interested in participating in the question and answer session should dial 800-247-9979 or 973-321-1100, for international callers. The conference ID number is 22913137. An online replay will also be available on www.diamondoffshore.com following the call.

ABOUT DIAMOND OFFSHORE

Diamond Offshore is a leader in offshore drilling, providing contract drilling services to the energy industry around the globe with a total fleet of 35 offshore drilling rigs, including two rigs under construction. Diamond Offshore's fleet consists of 24 semisubmersibles, one of which is under construction, five dynamically positioned drillships, one of which is under construction, and six jack-ups. Additional information about the Company and access to the Company's SEC filings are available at www.diamondoffshore.com. Diamond Offshore is owned 53% by Loews Corporation (NYSE: L).

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements contained in this press release or made during the above conference call that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Such statements include, but are not limited to, statements concerning drilling rig deliveries, operations and timing; contract effectiveness, effective dates and estimated duration; plans regarding retirement and scrapping of drilling rigs; future impairments; future dividends; expectations of future backlog, revenue, operating costs and performance; future liquidity, financial condition, market conditions, commodity prices and strategic opportunities; revenue expected to result from backlog; future credit ratings; future dayrates, future status, start and end dates and future contracts and availability; future contract opportunities and termination rights; contract noncompliance by customers and other third parties; utilization, surveys, downtime and other aspects of the Company's drilling rigs; statements concerning customer discussions and outcomes thereof and the impact of these and related events on the Company's operations and revenues; rigs being upgraded or to be upgraded and rigs under construction; and other statements that are not of historical fact. Forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain and subject to a variety of assumptions, risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated or expected by management of the Company. A discussion of the important risk factors and other considerations that could materially impact these matters as well as the Company's overall business and financial performance can be found in the Company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and readers of this press release are urged to review those reports carefully when considering these forward-looking statements. Copies of these reports are available through the Company's website at www.diamondoffshore.com. These risk factors include, among others, risks associated with worldwide demand for drilling services, level of activity in the oil and gas industry, renewing or replacing expired or terminated contracts, contract cancellations and terminations, maintenance and realization of backlog, competition and industry fleet capacity, impairments and retirements, declaration of dividends, operating risks, changes in tax laws and rates, regulatory initiatives and compliance with governmental regulations, construction of new builds, casualty losses, and various other factors, many of which are beyond the Company's control. Given these risk factors, investors and analysts should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this press release. The

Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any forward-looking statement is based.

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	20	15	2014	
Revenues:				
Contract drilling	\$	599,577 \$	685,308	
Revenues related to reimbursable expenses		20,479	24,116	
Total revenues		620,056	709,424	
Operating expenses:				
Contract drilling, excluding depreciation		350,658	369,790	
Reimbursable expenses	20,	092	23,666	
Depreciation		137,299	107,011	
General and administrative		17,452	22,827	
Impairment of assets		358,528		
Restructuring and separation costs Gain on disposition of assets		6,168 (611)	 (147)	
Total operating expenses		889,586	523,147	
Operating (loss) income		(269,530)	186,277	
Other income (expense):				
Interest income		583	408	
Interest expense Foreign currency transaction gain (loss)		(23,982) 5,590	(18,155) (1,178)	
Other, net		221_	327	
(Loss) income before income tax (benefit) expense		(287,118)	167,679	
Income tax benefit (expense)		31,409	(21,869)	
Net (loss) income	\$	(255,709) \$	145,810	
(Loss) income per share	\$	(1.86) \$	1.05	
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Shares of common stock		137,151	138,469	

Dilutive potential shares of common stock		4
·	137,151	138,473
Total weighted average shares outstanding		

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited) (In thousands)

	Three Months Ended				
	Mar 31, 2015		Dec 31, 2014		Mar 31, 2014
REVENUES Floaters:			-		
Ultra-Deepwater	\$ 251,396	\$	285,991	\$	205,794
Deepwater	138,770		115,777		146,559
Mid-water	176,357		231,933		285,979
Total Floaters	566,523		633,701		638,332
Jack-ups	33,054		40,675		46,976
Total Contract Drilling Revenue	\$ 599,577	\$	674,376	\$	685,308
Revenues Related to Reimbursable Expenses	\$ 20,479	\$	945	\$	24,116
CONTRACT DRILLING EXPENSE Floaters:					
Ultra-Deepwater	\$ 154,539	\$	133,103	\$	123,530
Deepwater	63,675		66,093		71,949
Mid-water	99,320		119,763		134,046
Total Floaters	317,534		318,959		329,525
Jack-ups	21,570		25,268		28,029
Other	11,554		14,428		12,236
Total Contract Drilling Expense	\$ 350,658	\$	358,655	\$	369,790
	\$ 20,092	\$	698	\$	23,666
Reimbursable Expenses					
OPERATING INCOME Floaters:					
Ultra-Deepwater	\$ 96,857	\$	152,888	\$	82,264

Deepwater		75,095	49,684	74,610		
Mid-water		77,037		112,170		151,933
Total Floaters		248,989		314,742		308,807
Jack-ups	11,484			15,407	18,947	
Other		(11,554)	(14,428)		(12,236)	
Reimbursable expenses, net		387		247	450	
Depreciation General and administrative expense		(137,299) (17,452)		(131,712) (19,923)		(107,011) (22,827)
Bad debt recovery						
Gain (loss) on disposition of assets		611		(2,230)		147
Impairment of assets		(358,528)				
Restructuring and separation costs		(6,168)				
Total Operating (Loss) Income	\$	(269,530)	\$	162,103	\$	186,277

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited) (In thousands)

	March 31,	December 31,
	2015	2014
ASSETS		
Current assets: Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 184,775	\$ 233,623
Marketable securities	14,016	16,033
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for bad debts	445,685	463,862
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	199,321	185,541
	843,797	899,059
Drilling and other property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	6,574,142	6,945,953
Other assets	117,890	176,277
Total assets	\$ 7,535,829	\$ 8,021,289
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 249,979	\$ 249,962
Other current liabilities	521,079	606,684
Long-term debt	1,994,587	1,994,526
Deferred tax liability	413,009	530,394
Other liabilities	177,329	188,160

4,179,846 4,451,563 \$ 7,535,829 \$ 8,021,289

DIAMOND OFFSHORE DRILLING, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES AVERAGE DAYRATES AND UTILIZATION

(Dayrate in thousands)

	First Quarter 2015				Fourth Quar 2014	ter	First Quarter 2014		
	Average Dayrate (1)	Utilization (2)	Operational Efficiency (3)	Average Dayrate (1)	Utilization (2)	Operational Efficiency (3)	Revised Average Dayrate (4)	Utilization (2)	Operational Efficiency (3)
Ultra-Deepwater Floaters	\$497	51%	81.5%	\$493	66%	90.2%	\$401	66%	95.3%
Deepwater Floaters	\$486	45%	95.1%	\$431	48%	97.3%	\$427	64%	96.0%
Mid-Water floaters	\$266	49%	94.1%	\$270	55%	96.8%	\$278	64%	94.4%
Jack-ups	\$92	66%	99.4%	\$96	77%	99.5%	\$94	79%	99.9%
Fleet Total			91.2%			95.5%			95.9%

- (1) Average dayrate is defined as contract drilling revenue for all of the specified rigs in our fleet per revenue earning day. A revenue earning day is defined as a 24-hour period during which a rig earns a dayrate after commencement of operations and excludes mobilization, demobilization and contract preparation days.
- (2) Utilization is calculated as the ratio of total revenue-earning days divided by the total calendar days in the period for all specified rigs in our fleet—including cold-stacked rigs, but excluding rigs under construction. As of May 4, 2015, one deepwater and four mid-water semisubmersible rigs and three jack-up rigs were cold stacked.
- (3) Operational efficiency is calculated as the ratio of total revenue-earning days divided by the sum of total revenue-earning days plus the number of days (or portions thereof) associated with unanticipated equipment downtime.
- (4) Average dayrate reported in prior periods has been revised to conform to current presentation.

Contact: Darren Daugherty Director, Investor Relations (281) 492-5370





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