



Marine Atlantic
Marine Atlantique

Canada

STATEMENT

***August 1 afternoon update on incident involving MV Blue
Puttees***

For immediate release

August 1, 2013

St. John's, NL – Following underwater inspections of the *MV Blue Puttees* by divers, it has been determined that the vessel has sustained some damage to its bulbous bow, a piece of equipment used for vessel operating efficiency. While the vessel's integrity has not been compromised and is able to sail, the bulbous bow must be repaired in accordance with regulatory requirements.

As a result of this information, Marine Atlantic plans to sail the vessel to Halifax to allow dry dock repairs to take place, once it has been released by authorities. Unfortunately, based on the current analysis, it is estimated that the vessel will be unavailable for service until the end of August. Once the vessel is in dry dock, a clearer picture of potential timeframes will become more apparent.

The removal of the vessel from service will have an impact on Marine Atlantic's sailing schedule for the coming weeks. While three vessels will remain in service, the removal of the capacity offered by the *MV Blue Puttees* will result in challenges. A revised schedule is currently being drafted. Customers will be contacted through Marine Atlantic's customer contact system with updated sailing times. Customers will be provided with as much notice as possible to allow their travel plans to be adjusted.

Marine Atlantic thanks affected passengers for their patience. Further updates will be provided as additional information becomes available.