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September 2008

## Fact Sheet

### The Sant Ocean Hall's "Ocean Odyssey"

Visitors will feel immersed in the ocean as they enter the Sant Ocean Hall at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. They will be literally surrounded by moving images of the underwater world shown on the walls above the exhibit space. The eight-screen, high-definition film, "Ocean Odyssey," was created especially for this exhibition by renowned underwater cinematographer Feodor Pitcairn. The film is a signature feature of the Sant Ocean Hall, which is the largest exhibition in the museum and the only in the country devoted exclusively to a global view of the ocean.

"Ocean Odyssey" features stunning footage from the Galapagos Islands, French Polynesia, the Channel Islands of California, the Cayman Islands and Belize—locations chosen for their variety, biodiversity and fascinating creatures. Sequences include sharks, whales, jellyfish, seals and manta rays.

Pitcairn's footage is shot in high definition using Sony's CineAlta HDCAM™ technology, with additional lighting used only at night so the effect is completely realistic. In the Natural History exhibit, it is shown on the walls above the exhibit space using 12 Sony SXR™ 4K projectors. The term 4K resolution comes from the projector's pixel matrix (about 8.8 million pixels), which allows it to deliver four times the resolution of today's high-definition home TVs.

Sony's SXR™ technology is used in a number of movie, business and commercial applications. The technology's ability to display four full, high-definition images at one time enables the viewer to see a variety of them, all at high resolution and in precise detail.



“Ocean Odyssey” is actually a series of short films that are constantly changing on each of the eight “screens,” or sections, of the wall. To see it all, visitors would have to stand in the exhibition hall for 23 minutes. “Ocean Odyssey” will be shown continuously during public hours.

Pitcairn, a diver, naturalist and cinematographer, is head of Feodor Pitcairn Productions, located near Philadelphia. The firm won the 2008 Best Nature Film award at the Jules Verne Adventure Film Festival. Pitcairn also produced the award-winning PBS series, “Ocean Wilds,” in 2001.

Sony is an in-kind donor to the Sant Ocean Hall, providing technical expertise, the donation of a SXRD™ projector and the primary sponsorship of the exhibit’s grand opening.

The museum store will offer a one-hour DVD of the ocean footage shot especially for the exhibition’s high-bay screens. The DVD has two versions—the first one is set to music, the second includes the same footage with narration describing the locations, creatures and what is happening on the screens.

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