

# West Marine Announces Grand Opening of First Flagship Store in Clear Lake, Texas:

## *Largest Store in Texas Devoted to Boating Supplies, Accessories & Apparel*

West Marine (NASDAQ: WMAR) the largest specialty retailer of boating supplies and accessories in the U.S., announces the grand opening May 3-6, of the first West Marine flagship Store in Texas at 1401 Marina Bay Drive in Kemah. Grand opening events will take place from 8 AM to 9 PM Thursday through Saturday, May 3-5; and from 9 AM to 7 PM, on Sunday, May 6.

At 25,000 square feet, the Store will include the largest high-tech marine electronics selection in the state of Texas, and a huge selection of casual and technical apparel and personal accessories for your life on the water such as sunglasses, waterproof watches and high tech shoes.

The new Store also includes a 2500 square-foot fishing section with a Fishing Shack for local anglers, which will focus on saltwater fishing, both in Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Knowledgeable Associates will be on deck to offer advice, information and assistance in select-



**West Marine Clear Lake Clothing Department (left) and Boating Department.**

ing the right lures and reels for the Upper Texas Coast area. The new Store also features an on-site sailboat rigging shop with an expanded sailboat hardware department, plus an engine parts counter staffed by specialists, kayaks, inflatable boats and a motor shop.

Store Manager and Clear Lake resident Nolan Vander-Haagen has been with West

Marine for over 18 years. A lifelong boater and fisherman he has enjoyed the waters from the Gulf of Mexico to the Caribbean to the Atlantic Ocean.

"The entire Clear Lake West Marine crew is eager to serve our customers at our new location," says Vander-Haagen. "We will offer everything needed, in terms of fishing gear, engine parts, clothing—

whatever makes for a great day of boating and fishing, whether on Galveston Bay or the Gulf of Mexico," Vander-Haagen adds.

There will be 30 Associates at the new West Marine with over 330 years of combined boating, fishing and sailing experience and over 50,000 nautical miles under their collective belts.

*West Marine, the largest specialty retailer of boating supplies and accessories, has more than 310 company-owned stores located in 38 states, Puerto Rico and Canada and three franchised stores located in Turkey. Their call center and Internet channels offer Customers over 75,000 products plus the convenience of exchanging catalog and Internet purchases at our Store locations. Their Port Supply division is one of the largest wholesale distributors of marine equipment serving boat manufacturers, marine services, commercial vessel operators and government agencies. For more information on West Marine's products and store locations, or to start shopping, visit [westmarine.com](http://westmarine.com) or call 1-800-BOATING (1-800-262-8464).*

\*When fully inflated with seawater the Regular Cobia Tube® weighs approximately 200lbs, and the Large Cobia Tube® weighs approximately 300lbs. Two sizes are offered to allow boat owners the option of using the Regular Tube for most applications and reduced weight but for tournaments and trophy size fish the Large Tube will accommodate world record class fish.

