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MEDIA CONTACT:
Caroline Witherspoon or
Tess Staadecker
Becker Communications, Inc.
(808) 533-4165

SPYBALL CAMERA INSTALLED AT THE WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

* Innovative Technology Provides Aquarium Visitors with Shark Encounters *

HONOLULU (October 22, 2008) – Waikiki Aquarium visitors can now come face-to-fin with blacktip reef sharks, jacks and the other inhabitants of the 35,000-gallon *Hunters on the Reef* exhibit without ever having to get wet. That's because the Aquarium has installed a unique 360-degree rotating Spyball camera, providing visitors with a one-of-a-kind shark encounter.

The Spyball's videogame-like console and joystick controls direct the camera to rotate and zoom giving adventurers of all ages the ability to "swim" up-close and observe the exhibit's predators in real time on a television screen. "We're excited to be one of the first public aquariums in the world using the Spyball technology," said Director Andrew Rossiter, Ph.D. "Even better, it is helping us to further fulfill our mission to inspire and promote understanding, appreciation and conservation of Pacific marine life."

Manufacture by Submertec Limited in Fife, Scotland, the Spyball is 160 mm in diameter and is made of nonmetallic materials that eliminate the possibility of harm to the marine life.

(more)

ABOUT THE WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

Founded in 1904 and administered by the University of Hawaii since 1919, the Waikiki Aquarium is located on the shoreline of Waikiki Beach next to a living reef and across from Kapiolani Park. The Aquarium – third oldest in the U.S. – showcases more than 500 marine species, and maintains more than 3,000 marine specimens. Public exhibits, education programs and research focus on the unique aquatic life of Hawaii and the tropical Pacific. The Aquarium welcomes more than 320,000 visitors annually, and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except Honolulu Marathon Sunday and Christmas Day. Admission is \$9 for visitors; \$6 for local residents, active duty military with ID, students with ID and seniors; \$4 for youths ages 13-17 and persons with disabilities; \$2 for juniors ages 5 to 12; and free for children 4 and under and Friends of Waikiki Aquarium (FOWA) members. For more information about the Waikiki Aquarium, including membership, please call 808-923-9741 or visit www.waquarium.org.

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