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## ***Showboat Branson Belle Scheduled to Open March 25<sup>th</sup>, One Week Later than Planned***

### ***Scope of Work and Weather Delays Reasons Cited***

(Branson, Missouri 2/17/2011) With recent weather delays, coupled with the sheer scope of work associated with extensive interior remodeling and scheduled exterior repairs to the Ship's hull, Showboat Branson Belle (SBB) is scheduled to open March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, one week later than originally planned.

“This delay is about opening at excellence,” said SBB General Manager, Jim Moeskau. “With new shows, new performers, new costumes, new sets, plus a new menu, staging, lighting and décor, 2011 marks the biggest change year in the paddlewheeler’s 15-year history – we’re just a bit short on time for all the interior and exterior work due to the winter delays.”

The Showboat is also replacing the propulsion system following last December’s overnight incident where the Showboat was lodged on Poverty Point in Taney County. The Ship experienced propulsion issues, coupled with an extreme wind storm with high winds and strong gusts, causing the Ship to lodge on a shallow, rocky point.

The official process of what needs to be addressed -- one area of the port side hull and the propulsion system -- has gone smoothly, yet the winter weather has presented delays for the work crews.

2011 promises a big year for Branson’s #1 lake attraction, presenting an-all new show *ENCORE!*, a world-class headliner production show featuring Janice Martin, the world’s *only* violin-playing aerialist, along with The Showmen, a group of six talented male vocalists and dancers, hailing from all across America. The musical selections will range from Gershwin to the Beatles to the Black Eyed Peas, accompanied by the Ship’s signature live band, The Rockin’ Dockers and master of ceremonies, comedian and musician, Christopher James.

The Showboat Branson Belle cruises Table Rock Lake in Branson, Missouri, March 25 through December 31. Cruise schedules and information: [www.showboatbransonbelle.com](http://www.showboatbransonbelle.com) or 800-775-BOAT(2628).