

DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2002 – 096



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EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS

WIND SONG FIRE

The French Navy vessel **Revi** started towing passenger **Wind Song** away from Tahaa Dec 1, after a fire broke out aboard the luxury liner early in the morning. French officials said today, that the fire seemed to be under control, but they insist the fire is still not over yet. Special firefighters from the French Navy had to leave the vessel during the night because of the heat. They used infrared equipment as the vessel presently has no electricity. The fire advanced to the storeroom, not far away from the generator where the fire first broke out. Representatives from the Windstar cruise company and Navy officials will try to go aboard Wind Song, Dec 3 to assess the damage and to see if the fire can really be extinguished. "One thing is sure. We will not allow a burning ship to come in the Papeete harbour", said Christian Jouve from the French High-commissioner's office in Tahiti. The cost and the difficulty of towing the vessel and whether it could be repaired in French Polynesia are also matters of concerns for French officials. The luxury liner still carries about 100 tons of fuel, but firefighters claimed this part of the vessel is well-protected against the fire. The flames seemed to be located in the central part of the vessel

Schip loopt vast op zandbank Terneuzen

Het communicatievaartuig **Vebo Runner** van de Verenigde Bootlieden bv in Terneuzen is dinsdagmiddag omstreeks half drie vastgelopen op een zandbank voor de haven van Terneuzen.

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De boot kwam midden op de zandplaat terecht na een verkeerde inschatting of een machinestoring. De **Vebo Runner** was met vier bemanningsleden van een drijvende kraan van overslagbedrijf Terneuzen (OVET) op weg naar de Kaloothaven, waar een kraanploeg zou worden afgelost.

De vier OVET-medewerkers werden later op de middag door sleep- en bergingsbedrijf Multtraship van de plaat gehaald. Een eerste poging van **Multtraship** om de **Vebo Runner** vlot te trekken mislukte. Rond middernacht zou een nieuwe poging worden gewaagd, maar of die kans van slagen heeft werd gisteravond laat door scheepvaartdeskundigen betwijfeld.

Aan boord van het communicatievaartuig bevinden zich twee bemanningsleden. De **Vebo Runner** zat vast ter hoogte van boei 18.



The cruise ship **Fascination** is seen docked in Cozumel, Mexico, Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2002. Nearly 200 people on the ship's last voyage returned to Miami on Monday suffering from a gastrointestinal ailment. More than 1,000 cruise ship passengers have been stricken by flu-like illnesses in recent months



Bangladeshi return home on an overloaded ferry on the river Buri-Ganga to join their family members for the upcoming Eid festival in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2002. Eid, the holiest Muslim festival, comes at the end of the month-long Ramadan holiday

Geen verzet van personeel tegen opheffing van Van den Akker

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De werknemers van bergings- en sleepbedrijf **Van den Akker** in Vlissingen leggen zich neer bij de opheffing van de onderneming. Ze beseffen dat er geen toekomst meer in het bedrijf zit.

Ze verkeren alleen in onzekerheid over hun positie, nu de Unie van Redding en Sleepdienst (URS), de Belgische eigenaar van Van den Akker, hen vervangend werk heeft aangeboden.

Tijdens een gisteravond door FNV Bondgenoten belegde bijeenkomst lieten de vijftientwintig personeelsleden blijken dat ze zich niet tegen de opheffing van Van den Akker zullen verzetten. Het bedrijf verkeert al drie jaar in de rode cijfers. Alleen over vorige maand is al een verlies van 15.000 euro geboekt. „Dat hou je niet lang vol als er geen enkel zicht op verbetering is”, verklaarde vakbondsbestuurder B. Paas.

De werknemers verkeren in onzekerheid over de veranderingen in arbeidsvoorwaarden en sociale voorzieningen die indiensttreding bij URS zou kunnen betekenen. Het is de bedoeling dat Paas daar in de loop van de volgende week duidelijkheid over verschaft. Dan moet ook bekend zijn in hoeverre bij Smit Internationale, de vorige eigenaar van Van den Akker, nog compensatie valt te halen voor het personeel. Het is de bedoeling dat het bergingsbedrijf eind deze maand stopt.

CASUALTY REPORTING HANJIN PENNSYLVANIA



The **HANJIN PENNSYLVANIA** still smouldering from the fire enroute safer waters

Photo's via Gaetan Spoormans – COSCO Belgium

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left :

Cargo hold Centre 6

Right :

The remains of the wheelhouse



ROUTE, PORTS & SERVICES

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Telephone: (+31)105018000
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ZPMC receives its biggest crane order yet from YICT



SHANGHAI Zhenhua Port Machinery Co., (ZPMC) has recently received an order worth US\$105 million, from Yantian International Container Terminal Ltd (YICT), the biggest-ever contract for container machinery in China.

The order includes ten super post-panamax quayside container cranes and 27 other yard cranes, all of which are scheduled to be delivered by the end of 2003.

ZPMC is a well known manufacturer of cranes and large steel structures. The company's products are deployed in around 50 container terminals in 25 countries around the world.

Top : the **ZHEN HUA 5** arriving in the Europort February 10th, 2002 with new container cranes for the ECT.
Photo : Piet Sinke ©

Queen Mary 2 chartered for Athens 2004

Cunard's Queen Mary 2, the world's largest and most costly cruise liner, has now been chartered for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

The deal, which will bring the new vessel to Piraeus to accommodate members of "the Olympic family", was signed on Tuesday in Greece but the worth of the contract remained a subject of speculation.

"We will not be disclosing the figures", said a Cunard management spokesperson in Miami.

The schedule requires the 150,000 tonne ship, which is currently under construction by Chantiers de l'Atlantique for a reported investment of \$800m, to arrive in Piraeus on August 12, 2004, the day before the Games open. It will depart on August 30.

The QM2 is one of 11 cruise ships the organisers have lined up for the Olympics, but only the second confirmed chartered, following the **Splendour of the Seas**.

Others reportedly chartered for the needs of the Olympics are the **Aidavita, Olympia Voyager, Olympia Explorer, Olympia Countess, Oosterdam, Rotterdam, Seabourne Pride, Silver Whisper**, and **Topaz**.

Torch Offshore Announces Shipyard Conversion Contract for the Midnight Express

Torch Offshore, Inc. announced today that its subsidiary, Torch Express L.L.C., has entered into a contract with Davie Maritime Inc. of Quebec, Canada for the conversion of the **Midnight Express** at a cost of approximately \$37.0 million. The total cost of the entire conversion project, including anticipated financial costs, will be between \$80.0 million and \$90.0 million. The 520-foot LASH (heavy transport) vessel will be converted into a DP-2 offshore construction vessel with the capability to work in varying water depths throughout the world. The **Midnight Express** has been at the Davie Maritime shipyard since April 2002 where the functional design was being performed. Some of the conversion work will begin immediately; however, the complete contract will not become effective until various conditions are satisfied, including arrangements for the required debt financing for the project.

Torch Offshore, Inc. Chairman and CEO, Lyle G. Stockstill, commented, "We have worked very closely with the management of Davie Maritime and their technical staff for several months and we are pleased with their professionalism and the way in which they have tackled the project. We are confident that the personnel of Davie Maritime will do a good job with the conversion of the Midnight Express. The current schedule should put the Midnight Express in the water and ready for work in the fourth quarter of 2003. The Company is quite excited about the future possibilities that this vessel brings to our fleet."

Established in 1978, Torch Offshore, Inc. is involved in offshore pipeline installation and subsea construction for the oil and natural gas industry. Torch Offshore is expanding beyond its established shallow water niche market in order to serve the industry's worldwide growing needs in the deepwaters.

Any statements made in this news release, other than those of historical fact, about an action, event or development, which the Company hopes, expects, believes or anticipates may or will occur in the future, are forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements in this news release include statements about the conversion, the total cost of conversion, the timing of delivery and the working capabilities of the Midnight Express. Such statements are subject to various assumptions, risks and uncertainties, which are specifically described in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as well as other factors that may not be within the Company's control, including, specifically, oil and natural gas commodity prices, weather conditions and offshore construction activity levels. Although the Company believes its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, it gives no assurance that the Company's assumptions and projections will prove to be correct. Actual results may differ materially from those projected.



Members of the environmental organization Greenpeace hang up a banner reading 'oil hazard' on the oil tanker **Byzantio**, in the port of Rotterdam December 4, 2002. The aging oil tanker is under pressure from environmentalists who claim it is posing an oil spill threat following the disaster of the Prestige oil tanker, which broke apart at sea near the Spanish coast two weeks ago.

NAVY NEWS

26m UK pounds to repair warship HMS NOTTINGHAM



The **Nottingham** hit rocks, holing her hull, at Lord Howe Island in July and is now being carried to UK waters. Defence Procurement Minister Lord Bach said she will be repaired at Portsmouth. Work could take up to 18 months.

The 115million pounds warship's future had been in doubt. The vessel,

being carried on lift ship **MV Swan**, will be delivered to Southampton at the weekend and towed to Portsmouth by a tug.

A Board of Inquiry into the incident at Lord Howe Island has yet to report.

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON ENROUTE HOME



USS George Washington steams through the Mediterranean Sea as the Norfolk, Va.-based aircraft carrier nears the end of a regularly scheduled deployment in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Southern Watch



The crew of the USS **Kentucky (SSBN 737)** arrives at their new homeport for the first time as the boat is guided in to the Delta Pier at Bangor submarine base

UAE nears go-ahead for Baynunah corvette project

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) General Headquarters is poised to give the long-awaited green light to the six-ship Project Baynunah light corvette programme, with the award of an estimated EUR880 million

MOVEMENTS

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MULTRASHIP Towage & Salvage

Scheldekade 48

4531 EH Terneuzen

The Netherlands

Tel : + 31 – 115 645 000

Fax : + 31 – 115 645 001

Internet

commercial@multraship.nl

<http://www.multraship.nl>

EMS TUG

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The **EMS TUG** arrived at the Tyne with the **EMSPONTON**
Photo's : Kevin Blair ©



AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS

Stijging vrachtvervoer KLM in november

KLM Cargo heeft in november 8 procent meer vracht vervoerd, bij een toegenomen capaciteit van 7 procent. De benuttingsgraad bij de vrachtcapaciteit steeg met 0,5 procent tot 75,4 procent. Vooral de diensten op Afrika deden het goed. Op de belangrijke Aziatische en Noord-Atlantische bestemmingen nam het vervoer met respectievelijk 5 en 3 procent toe in vergelijking met vorig jaar november.



British Airways Concorde prepares to taxi from its stand at London's Heathrow Airport, Wednesday Dec. 4, 2002. The airline announced Tuesday that on Nov. 27, 2002 pilots reported a vibration as they neared John F. Kennedy airport in New York as **part of the rudder on the tailplane fell off.**

12/5/2002

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines takes over codeshare route

KLM will start flying its own aircraft between Amsterdam and Casablanca, Morocco, with effect from 30 March 2003. The route is currently operated by Transavia Airlines, a majority-owned KLM subsidiary. KLM Royal Dutch Airlines also operate to Cairo and Tripoli in North Africa.

Shenzhen Airlines lease further aircraft

Shenzhen Airlines has taken a further two Boeing 737-700 aircraft on operating leases from GE Capital Aviation Services (GECAS), bringing the total to four. Shenzhen Airlines operates to over 20 destinations in China.

RIJNMOND WEATHER

Vooruitzichten van vrijdag t/m maandag:

Koude oostenwind!

Wolkenvelden en op de meeste plaatsen droog. De temperatuur daalt overdag naar rond het vriespunt en in de nacht gaat het licht vriezen.

	VR-06	ZA-07	ZO-08	MA-09
Maximumtemperatuur:	5	2	1	0
Minimumtemperatuur:	2	0	-1	-2
Zonnekans in %:	20	20	20	30
Neerslagkans in %:	20	20	20	10
Windrichting kracht:	ONO-4-5	ONO-4-5	O-4-5	O-4-5

.... PHOTO OF THE DAY



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The **ANGLIAN PRINCE** in the port of Hull
Photo's : George Robinson ©

HAVE A LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING **SITES** FOR SHIPPING INFO AND PICTURES OF SHIPS
AROUND HOEK VAN HOLLAND AT :

<http://www.scheepvaarthoek.nl>

And the renewed site of the National Tugboat Museum at :

[http:// www.nationaalsleepvaartmuseum.nl](http://www.nationaalsleepvaartmuseum.nl)