

DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2003 – 166



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Top : The **CARNIVAL TRIUMPH** in some heavy seas — **photo : Via Hans Hoffmann ©**

The tug **WOLRAAD WOLTEMADE** is expected at Maascentre buoy
22/09 20:00 hrs

EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS



The Great Falls on the Potomac River runs high on September 21, 2003 after Hurricane Isabel swept across the Mid-Atlantic area. U.S. President Bush signed disaster declarations for North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, the hardest-hit areas, opening the way for federal aid. Washington, which closed down for two days in the face of the storm, was also declared a disaster area.

‘Ghost fleet’ hits another snag

A CONTROVERSIAL plan to send a fleet of 13 decrepit and polluted US ships across the English Channel to a scrapyard in northern England ran into fresh problems on Friday when a regional authority questioned the legality of the demolition company's site, Reuters reports .

The plan envisages the so-called "ghost fleet" being towed more than 4,000 miles across the Atlantic from anchorage points in the US, through the English Channel and up to a site at Graythorp, Teesside, in northeast England.

"We are taking legal advice on the scope and validity of previous planning permission that might have been granted in relation to the decommissioning site," said a spokesman for Hartlepool Council, the local authority.

If existing planning permission is ruled invalid the company could have to make a fresh application.

Baltic Kristina closes active travelling season with almost 10 000 passengers carried in August

In August, the year's last month of active travelling season, Riga Sea Line carried 9 685 passengers. Although the record set in July was not surpassed, the company is satisfied with the result achieved. From July indicators it follows that losses now make only 67, 121 lati, which and the company will fully cover with revenues gained in August.

In July the ferry Baltic Kristina carried 10 756 passengers. The result achieved in August, 9 685 passengers, was almost as good, however influenced by a sudden weather change which decreased the number of those wishing to travel.

In August the ferry made 26 trips between Riga and Stockholm, each time with an average of 372 passengers on board. The flow of passengers in both directions was almost equivalent - 4 719 travelled from Stockholm to Riga and 4 966 from Riga to Stockholm. In August the ferry carried 446 cargo units and 867 cars, but the eight-month balance showed 49 895 passengers 4 504 cars.

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In July the company earned 283 505 lati. Compared with 122, 378 lati earned in June, the profit increased by 231 % or 161, 127 lati.

If compared with the six-month results, the seven-month turnover has grown by 708, 194 lati to 2, 573, 210 lati. Production costs amounted to 1, 730, 577 lati and gross profit was at 842, 633 lati.

The total amount of losses for the period under review decreased to 67 121 lati, making real the plans of Riga Sea Line to fully compensate the losses incurred early this year with revenues gained in August and to continue with a positive balance.

CASUALTY REPORTING

MOBY MAGIC (ITALY)

Local sources report passenger ro/ro Moby Magic officially laid-up and the crew put on leave. Only the Master and two officials are attending refloating operations and temporary repairs carried out by Rmorchiatori Sardi Spa. Understow vehicles on board have been inspected, but for the to be discharged it will be necessary to have the vessel lifted further

PRIDE OF VEERE (NETHERLANDS)

A tanker and a container ship have been involved in a "minor" collision in the North Sea (believed around 0200, UTC), coastguards said. C.c. **Pride of Veere** (2077 gt, built 1998) and chemical/oil carrier **Pointe du Castel** (3224 gt, built 1992) clipped each other as they were crossing paths around 25 miles north east of Ramsgate, Kent. Thames Coastguard said the ships - each with around 10 crew members on board - suffered only minor damage and continued to sail to port under "their own steam". Nobody had been injured, a spokesman added. He said: "It seems they were crossing each other and misjudged the distance they needed to pass safely." He added that the Pride of Veere, which had sailed from Rotterdam, would be inspected once it reached its original destination at Tilbury docks. The tanker which was heading through the English Channel - was to be inspected at a French port. A full investigation into the collision would be carried out by the coastguard authorities, the spokesman said. London, Sep 19 -- Following received from Coastguard Thames MRSC, timed 0919, UTC: C.c. Pride of Veere was steering a course of 240 degs at 12 knots and altered course to starboard to pass astern of chemical/oil carrier Pointe du Castel, which was steering 180 degs at 15.7 knots. As Pride of Veere was altering course Pointe du Castel also altered course, but to port. Pride of Veere continued to alter to starboard, when it was struck on the port quarter suffering damage below the water line, causing flooding in the rudder room and aft peak and some water in the engine-room. Pointe du Castel is in ballast and en route to Calais Roads and requires no assistance. Pride of Veere is proceeding to Tilbury, where ETA 1030, UTC. No pollution reported. Incident occurred in lat 51 42N, long 01 54E.

SHIPYARD NEWS

Star Cruises to buy two liners

Star Cruises, the world's third-largest cruise operator, has signed contracts worth HK\$6.17 billion for the supply of two new luxury liners. Its subsidiary Arrasas will pay US\$390 million (HK\$3.04 billion) for a vessel to be built by German shipbuilder Jos Meyer.

Another subsidiary, Ship Venture, will pay 356.2 million euros (HK\$3.13 billion) for a vessel, in which Jos Meyer and Arrasas act as guarantor for construction and delivery.

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The company said it was arranging loan financing to cover about 80 per cent of the contract price of the vessels, which would be paid in the four years from 2003 to 2006.

The rest will be funded by internal resources. Star Cruises reported a net loss of US\$37.1 million for the first half this year from a gain of US\$23 million a year earlier, hurt by the Iraq war and the outbreak of Sars.

Liabilities stood at US\$2.4 billion at the end of June, of which US\$2 billion were long-term.

Star Cruises owns 29 ships, nine of which are operated in the Asia Pacific, nine in North America and one in Europe. Two of its vessels - [SuperStar Leo](#), the largest cruise ship in Asia-Pacific, and Star Pisces - offer cruises out of Hong Kong.

Shares of Star Cruises closed unchanged at HK\$2.37 on Friday.

ROUTE, PORTS & SERVICES

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Decision on Maasvlakte II expected soon

SPECIFIC news for the Dutch maritime industry was thin on the ground in Tuesday's budget, but a decision on the huge land reclamation project Maasvlakte II is at least expected soon.

The Dutch Ministry of Transport has now stated that a decision on the massive 2,500 he project will be taken before the end of the year.

At the moment, the business plan of the port authority, Gemeentelijk Havenbedrijf Rotterdam, is with the government's Central Planning Bureau and the bureau is set to finalise its conclusions by the end of November.

The government then will take a decision on the controversial project, which is deemed vital for the development of the Dutch port.

Rotterdam's port authority and the city have pressed for a speedy decision on the second Maasvlakte — a project which has been on the table for some eight years already.

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A spokesman from the port authority said it was not surprising that a firm decision had not been taken yet but there would at least be a decision now.

Overall, Tuesday's budget had stressed the economic importance of both Rotterdam port and Amsterdam Schiphol Airport so the authority hoped this was at least a positive sign.

Most points raised in the budget for the maritime community concerned security issues and the Netherlands' ambition to be a top quality shipping nation.

Under its chairmanship of the European Union in mid-2004, the Dutch government is keen to champion a more secure maritime world and the Minister of Transport Karla Peijs particularly wants to promote more shortsea initiatives.

The Dutch government stated that it wants the Netherlands to be in the top ten of reputable flag states. There would also be more and tougher inspections to root out substandard vessels.

In the budget, the government announced that Dutch seafarers would all receive an identity document based on biometric data, in a bid to improve security.

Schiphol airport already deploys biometric identity cards which use an iris scanner, but at the moment it has not been decided what system the maritime sector would employ.

Continuing the fight against terrorism, the Dutch government is pumping money into several organisations.

In 2004, the Foundation for Port and Ship Security Development will get a subsidy of around E 75,000 (\$84,840) and a subsidy of E 150,000 also goes to the knowledge centre, Port Security Vulnerability.

CSCL move to ECT likely

China Shipping Container Line (CSCL) is likely to transfer its business in Rotterdam from Hanno/Uniport to the ECT Delta Terminal in the Maasvlakte port area next spring. The introduction of 8000 TEU vessels on its service between Northern Europe and the Far East is forcing the line to leave the Waalhaven area.

High-level talks are under way with ECT, confirms Rob van Beest of the China Shipping Agency Co. in Rotterdam. "If the plans for bigger ships in our fleet go ahead," he says, "that will justify the move to ECT."

The Hong Kong conglomerate Hutchison Whampoa, which is the majority shareholder in the Rotterdam transshipment concern ECT, already does business with China Shipping at its container terminals in Felixstowe and Hong Kong. Use of the ECT Delta Terminal could be included in negotiations on next year's contracts.

Water depth is a major problem for large vessels entering the Waalhaven dock. Its average depth is 14.5 metres, whereas laden 8000 TEU ships can have draughts of up to 15 metres. And the Benelux Tunnel forms an obstacle on the approach to the Waalhaven. Its roof is 16 metres below the surface, but the keels of passing vessels must clear it by at least 2 metres. Other problems facing large ships are the availability of suitable cranes and the amount of room for manoeuvre at the dock.

Hanno/Uniport recently sent its clients a letter reiterating that the new-generation container ships of about 8000 TEU will be able to reach the terminals in the Waalhaven area. According to Hanno/Uniport director Hans Vervat, that has been demonstrated in a study conducted jointly with Rotterdam Municipal Port Management (RMPM). A number of technical modifications will be needed to

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accommodate such large vessels. But once they have been completed, says Vervat, ships of 8000 TEU will be able to enter or leave the Waalhaven four times a day.

However, the question remains as to whether shipping lines will take the risk of their vessels encountering problems and incurring delays. According to Vervat, negotiations with China Shipping are still under way and a final decision will not be taken for several months. Jan Gelderland, Director of Operations and Technology at ECT, refuses to comment on this. "It is up to the clients themselves to make announcements about these matters," he says.

"K" Line and Yang Ming, other current users of Hanno/Uniport's facilities, also want to introduce ships of 8000 TEU. However, these are not expected to enter service until 2006.

NAVY NEWS

Cost of used navy submarines rises

OTTAWA - The price of four second-hand British submarines destined for the Canadian navy has increased, says the federal defence department.

Canada bought the diesel-powered submarines from the British government for \$750 million.

Since the first sub arrived in Halifax in the fall of 2000, British and Canadian inspectors have discovered at least one of the vessels has a dented hull, while all four have valve problems.

Defence Minister John McCallum says the submarines are still a good deal. But he admits the problems with the boats are driving up their price.

McCallum also said early defence department estimates for the subs were too low.

"To a certain degree, that has turned what is in fact a good news story into something of a bad news story because the focus now is on the cost overruns," said McCallum.

When asked for an updated cost estimate, the defence minister could not provide one. A defence department official later said the subs would cost \$897 million, up from the original estimate of \$750 million.

Opposition members of Parliament said the minister's lack of response doesn't inspire confidence. They've called for an estimate of the final cost and a estimated date the subs will be ready for service.

MOVEMENTS

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The **MIGHTY SERVANT 1** loaded with **KIZOMBA-A** platform – photo : Piet Sinke ©



The **OOSTERDAM** departed from Amsterdam Sunday evening – photo : Joop Marechal ©



The **CSO ALLIANCE** arrived Sunday at OTP Walker on the Tyne – photo : Kevin Blair ©



The **GOLDEN PRINCESS** arrived at Southampton – photo : Chris Brooks ©

RIJNMOND WEATHER

Vooruitzichten van dinsdag t/m vrijdag:

TIJDELIJK MOOI HERFSTWEER!

Morgen wisselend bewolkt, enkele buien en koel. Woensdag en donderdag zonnig en opnieuw zachter, woensdagmorgen kans op mist. Vrijdag meer bewolking en een bui.

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© Ed Aldus 2003	DI -23	WO-24	DO-23	VR-24
Maximumtemperatuur:	15	17	19	18
Minimumtemperatuur:	10	7	7	9
Zonnekans in %:	30	60	80	30
Neerslagkans in %:	60	10	5	30
Windrichting kracht:	NW-4-6	O-2-3	ZO-3-4	WZW-4-5

.... PHOTO OF THE DAY



The **MIGHTY SERVANT 1** loaded with the **KIZOMBA-A** platform seen here Sunday evening a few hours before departure from the Caland canal to Angola - **photo : Piet Sinke ©**

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Hoek-Harwich, cancelled roundtrip 8 October

Due to maintenance there will be no sailing on 07:20hrs ex Hoek van Holland and 10:40hrs ex Harwich on October 8.

The 16:00hrs ex Hoek will sail as normal.

If you want information do not hesitate to contact Hoek van Holland +31(0)174 315858 or Ashford +44(0)1233 653499

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SCHEEPVAARTBERICHTEN

ACHTERGRACHT 21 15 no Bornholm nr Raahe,
ADMIRALENGRACHT 22 30 n Algiers nr Suez Kanaal,
ALBLASGRACHT 22 150 no Gladstone nr Brisbane,
ALDEBARAN-12 22 te Antwerpen,
AMELAND 22 32 nw Vaasa nr Kemi,
AMSTELGRACHT 22 40 w Bornholm nr Gdansk,
ANDROMEDA 22 125 w Quessant nr Philadelphia,
ANET 22 te Lissabon,
ANJELIERSGRACHT 22 te Fort Lauderdale,
AQUATIQUE 22 te IJmuiden,
ARKLOW RAMBLER 22 pas Dover nr Edingburgh,
ARKLOW SEA 21 8 n Terschelling nr Hamburg,
ARKLOW STAR 22 Bromborough,
ARKLOW SURF 22 te Dagenham,
ARROW 22 te Calais,
ARTISGRACHT 22 te Civitavecchia,
ASSI SCAN LINK 22 te Bremen,
ATLASGRACHT 22 10 no Eden nr p Kembla,
BASTIAAN BROERE 21 115 n La Coruna nr Livorno,
BORNRIFF 22 n Fehmarn nr Kaliningrad,
BOTERDIEP 22 15 n Bizerte nr Duinkerken,
BOTHNIA 22 pas Kiel Kanaal nr Antwerpen,
BOTHNIABORG 21 vn St Petersburg nr Rotterdam,
CHRISTINA 22 50 no Stockholm nr Tornio,
CLAUDIA 22 te Sluiskil,
CORAL ISIS 22 720 o Rio De Janeiro nr Angola,
DANIEL 22 te Terneuzen,
DEPENDENT 22 pas Quessant nr Rocheford,
DIEZEBORG 23 te Derince,

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DOGGERSBANK 22 pas Oland Lappohja,
DUTCH EMERALD 22 45 n Tunis nr Dagenham,
DUTCH MARINER 21 pas Quessant nr Antwerpen,
DUTCH MATE 22 40 z Southampton nr Barcelona,
DUTCH PROGRESS 22 te Antwerpen,
EDAMGRACHT 21 550 w Cochin nr Langkawi,
EGELANTIERSGRACHT 21 te Sydney,
ELANDSGRACHT 21 te Lissabon,
EMMAGRACHT 22 900 n Easwards Martinique Island nr Puerto Cabello,
ESPRIT 22 te Rotterdam,
EUROGRACHT 21 pas Azoren nr Oran,
FAIRLOAD 22 90 nnw Alexandrie nr Rotterdam,
FLINTERDIJK 22 te Belfast,
FLINTERDUIN 22 200 zw Brest nr Nador,
FLINTERHAVEN 22 te La Pallice,
FLINTERSKY 22 pas Skagen nr Providence,
FLINTERSPIRIT 22 100 no Finisterre nr Slite,
FRISIAN LADY 21 vn Milazzo nr Southampton,
FRISIAN LADY 22 450 Gibraltar nr Southampton,
GENUA EXPRESS 21 te New York,
GIESSENBORG 22 35 zw Oland nr Uolu,
HAPPY ROVER 21 180 z Abidjan nr Luanda,
HEEREBRUG 22 vn Derince nr Gaeta,
HEERESTRAAT 21 vn Rotterdam nr Blyth,
INGER 22 pas Skagen nr Rauma,
IRINA 22 pas Dover Strait,
ISABEL 22 pas Groningen nr Argangelsk,
IVER EXAMPLE 21 60 z Grand Cayman nr Houston,
IVER EXPERIENCE 21 25 zw San Lorenzo,
JACO TRADER 22 t a Rede Vyborg,
JO CALLUNA 21 vn Ashdod nr Amsterdam,
JO CEDAR 22 te Singapore,
JO SYPRESS 22 te Amsterdam,
KASTEELBORG-3 520 n Azores nr Gent,
KEIZERSBORG 22 te Savona,
KONINGSBORG 22 Anker z vn Hanko,
KWINTEBANK 22 w Gotenburg nr Menominee,
LEMMERGRACHT 22 te Adelaide,
LOOIERSGRACHT 22 250 zw Guam nr Brisbane,
LOOTSGRACHT 22 400 no Singapore nr Qingdao,
LUMARE 22 pas Kopenhagen nr Belfast,
MAGIC 22 480 nw Azoren nr Gulfport Mississippi,
MAINEBORG 22 w Gibraltar nr Monfalcone,
MARIA GREEN 22 240 w Dakar nr Cartagena,
MARION GREEN 22 70 o Shanghai nr Longkou,
MARNEBORG 22 7 n Terschelling nr Hamburg,
MARNEDIEP 22 80 no Gavle nr Tornio,
MICHIGANBORG 22 te Kemi,
MOESELBORG 22 150 ono Charleston nr Charleston,
NEDLL EUROPA 22 420 zw Pulau We,
NEDLL HONGKONG 22 te Damietta,
NEDLL OCEANIA 22 te Jebel Ali,
NES. 22 40 n Lofoten nr Hammerfest,

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NONA 22 te Lidköping,
NORDLAND 22 vn Kielerkanaal nr Emden,
NORMED IZMIR 22 te Belfast,
NORTHERN EXPLORER 22 te Davao,
NOVA 22 te Antwerpen,
OCEAAN KLIPPER 22 420 zzw Santo Antao nr Kaliningrad,
OLGA 22 te Eurojoki,
P&O NEDLL HOUSTON 21 vn Rio de Janeiro nr Pt of Spain,
P&O NEDLL MERCATOR 22 te Shanghai,
P&O NEDLL ROTTERDAM 22 450 w Cochin,
PANDA 22 te Bilbao,
PARKGRACHT 22 250 o Brisbane nr Gladstone,
PIETERSGRACHT 22 vn Jakarta nr Balikpapan,
PIJLGRACHT 22 te Gibraltar nr Bermuda,
POLAND 22 te Riga,
PRINS JOHAN WILLEM FRISO 22 vn Tees nr Gijon,
PRINSENBORG 22 126 n Lisabon nr Dordrecht,
PROJECT EUROPA 21 te Belfast,
SCHELDEDIJK 22 te Bremerhaven,
SCHELDEGRACHT 22 260 ono Bermuda nr Stephenville,
SCHUITENDIEP 22 pas Barcelona,
SEA RHINE 22 pas Dover nr Kings Lynn,
SIROCCO 22 20 w Cabinda,
SIRRAH 22 pas Kieler Kanaal nr Bremerhaven,
SLUISGRACHT 22 300 zzo Newfoundland nr Jacksonville,
SMARAGD 22 te Terneuzen,
SMITWIJS LONDON 22 300 o Maputo nr Rio De Janeiro,
SPIEGELGRACHT 22 40 zo vn Crotone nr Trieste,
SPRING PANDA 22 te Camden,
SPUIGRACHT 22 te Jacksonville,
STELLA POLARIS 22 135 wzw Brest nr Leixoes,
STELLA POLLUX 22 no IJsland nr Isafjordur,
SWING 22 vn Oxelosund nr Amsterdam,
TANJA 22 te Hamburg,
TORNE 22 te Boulogne,
TRANSMARE 22 te Kokkola,
TRINITAS 22 te Vaasa,
TROUT 22 t a Slagenstangen,
UAL AFRICA 22 150 z Dominicaanse Republiek,
VAASABORG 22 430 wnw De Azoren nr Ceuta,
VARNADIEP 22 pas Malmo,
VARNEBANK 22 t a Beirut,
VELOX 22 pas Finisterre nr Lissabon,
VICTORIABORG 22 pas Kaap Finisterre nr Genua,
VIRGINIABORG 22 wzw Anticosti Island nr Hamilton,
VISCOUNT 22 65 wzw Guernsey nr Rouen,
VLIEBORG 22 z Newfoundland nr Cartagena,
VLISTBORG 22 pas Goteborg nr Gandia,
VOSSDIEP 22 150 zw Brest nr Cadiz,
WAAL TRADER 23 verw te Shanghai,
WESTERSCHELDEBORG 22 45 wnw Hoek van Holland nr Bilbao,
ZEUS 22 30 zo Kopenhagen nr Genua.