

## DAILY COLLECTION OF MARITIME PRESS CLIPPINGS 2008 – 135



**Number 135 \*\*\* COLLECTION OF MARITIME PRESS CLIPPINGS \*\*\* Saturday 17-05-2008**  
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**At the IHC-Kinderdijk shipyard the new Boskalis TSHD named CRESTWAY was launched Friday afternoon**  
**Photo : Piet Sinke ©**

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## EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS



The **CAP SAN NICOLAS** – Photo : Fop Leder ©

## Putin Pushes Russian Shipbuilding Reform

Vladimir Putin reportedly has lamented the state of Russian shipbuilding, criticizing the pace of efforts to overhaul the industry, according to a recent AP report.

Putin, making his first working trip as premier to his hometown of St. Petersburg, used a visit to the federally owned Admiralty Shipyard in the port city to focus on one of the major industries his government has made a priority of revamping.

Earlier this week, Putin reportedly named Igor Sechin, as chairman of the state shipbuilding corporation . Too many contracts for building ships, offshore drilling platforms and other maritime-related manufacturing were going to foreign companies, Putin reportedly said. He said just a small fraction of major shipbuilding contracts were going to Russian builders. **Source: AP**

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Dockwise latest is named the **TALISMAN**  
Photo's : Aart van der Lelij ©



## 100 jaar Rederij Doeksen: Hessel & Ellen zingen voor u!

Rederij Doeksen bestaat dit jaar 100 jaar en viert dit met een groot Doeksen-Strandfeest op zaterdag 31 mei a.s. Op die dag zal Hessel op Terschelling een mega-concert geven en speciale gast is Ellen ten Damme. Kaarten zijn gratis en kunnen online worden besteld. Speciaal voor dit feest zijn er aantrekkelijke arrangementen met accommodaties samengesteld. Maar als u niet wilt overnachten kunt u per speciale nachtboot terug van Terschelling naar Harlingen (vertrek vanaf het eiland 2.00 uur). Mensen die op Vlieland verblijven kunnen per gratis sneldienst oversteken en na afloop met de nachtsneldienst weer terug naar Vlieland.



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## PANAMA PILOTS "GO SLOW"

THE Panama Canal Authority has accepted that there may be a "few very isolated" incidents where pilots are taking action to slow down traffic in support of their union's negotiations for a new contract and pay increase.

The ACP says the incidents are being investigated and that "necessary measures" will be taken.

The Authority also accepts seasonal delays have been exacerbated by maintenance work at two locks which has now been suspended. According to reports earlier this week the average time ships spent in canal waters was 42 hours this Monday, compare to last year's average of 24.5 hours last year. **Source : Maritime Global Net**



The **FAIRMOUNT EXPEDITION** seen off Cape Town  
Photo : Glenn Kasner ©

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## Jordan says pirates attack ship off Somalia

Jordanian authorities lost contact with a Jordanian-flagged ship off Somalia on Saturday and suspect it was attacked by pirates, a Jordanian official said on Saturday. "It is believed that the ship was subjected to piracy," Jordan's state news agency Petra quoted Minister of Transportation Alaa Batayneh as saying.

He said the ship "**Victoria**", owned by a United Arab Emirates company, was carrying 4,200 tons of sugar from Denmark in humanitarian assistance to the Somali capital Mogadishu. Authorities lost contact with the ship while it was making its way from India to Mogadishu. The crew of around 12 people included Pakistani, Indian, Bangladeshi and Tanzanian nationalities, Batayneh said.

Piracy is common in the waters off Somalia. Under an agreement with Jordan, Denmark provides protection to ships carrying the Jordanian flag in Somali waters. Last month four countries introduced a draft resolution at the U.N. Security Council urging maritime powers to fight piracy off Somalia's coast and authorizing them to arrest pirates in Somali waters. The resolution is aimed at combating a surge in ship hijackings for ransom in the waters off the coast of lawless Somalia that have made them one of the world's most dangerous shipping zones.

## ISKES LATEST, THE TRITON



Above seen the **TRITON** during trials in Turkish waters, the **TRITON** is expected to depart from Turkey May 22<sup>nd</sup> bound for her homeport IJmuiden - **Photo : Dirk Martens ©**



The **APL POLAND** seen assisted by the **SMIT ARUBA** in Rotterdam-Europoort  
Photo : Fred Vloo ©

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## Master on Belgian tanker failed to report grounding

**SSG-RINGKØBING.** The master of the Belgian flagged LPG-carrier **Kemira Gas** will be fined with at least DKK 10,000 for not reporting that his vessel ran aground in the Great Belt in the early morning hours of Wednesday this week. **Kemira Gas** was north bound with a cargo of 8,500 tons ammonia bound for Herøya, when the officer on duty aborted an overtaking manoeuvre of the Malta-flagged tanker **Lycian**. While getting back on course the ship hit a sandbank and was stuck. The accident happened around 2 a.m. Four hours later the vessel was detected by the VTS traffic control, which tried to call the ship without success. The patrol vessel **Olfert Fischer** was sent to the position and was able to make contact with the tanker, that later on the day manage to leave the ground under own power and without damage.

## Vrachtschip vastgelopen voor Franse kust

Voor de noordkust van Frankrijk is een vrachtschip vastgelopen dat op weg was naar de haven van Antwerpen. Enkele uren later raakte het schip opnieuw vlot.



De **Baltic Carrier** was op weg van het Britse Mostyn naar Antwerpen. Omstreeks 3.30 uur liep het 82-meter lange vrachtschip vast voor het strand van Boulogne-sur-Mer. De oorzaak was een misrekening. Even voor 9.00 uur werd het schip vlot getrokken door het stijgende tij. Een sleepboot trok de **Baltic Carrier** opnieuw het Kanaal in. Volgens de kapitein waren er geen gevaarlijke producten aan boord. Het schip maakte geen water en er zou ook geen sprake zijn van vervuiling.

Voor de kust van Denemarken liep een Russisch vrachtschip vast. De kapitein en de machinist werden onmiddellijk gearresteerd op verdenking van dronkenschap. Het schip was niet geladen. (afp/gb)

## Timber carrier aground, river Svir

**m/v Sormovskiy-45** with 2672 mt of sawn logs on board, went off channel at 1079.9 kilometer mark, Svir river, and ran aground. No damages, no spill. Traffic not affected. May 17 10.00 LT - ocean-going tug **MB-1209** on the scene, salvage under way.

**m/v Sormovskiy-45** - river-sea type, dwt 3346, built 1982, L/B/D 114/13.19/3.6 meters, crew 11, flag Russia, owner OOO Orion, S.Petersburg, IMO 8133566. Source : Mike Voitenko

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## NAVY NEWS



Several navy ships lined-up for the sail-past during the Navy days at Willemstad (Curacao) note in the background Heerema's **THIALF**.

Photo : Royal Dutch navy ©

## No fees in submarine, jet deal

The Government has never paid anyone commission for the procurement of two Scorpene submarines and 18 Sukhoi fighter jets, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said Malaysia had direct negotiations with the countries involved. The submarines were purchased from France and Spain and the jets from Russia.

"On the allegation made by Yang Berhormat Permatang Pauh (Opposition Leader Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail) that Perimekar Sdn Bhd had received a commission of ?114.96mil (RM580.46mil) in the Scorpene submarines deal, the ministry wants to stress that the Government has never paid any commission directly or indirectly to the company.

"On the purchase of Sukhoi, I want to stress that the Government has never paid any commission to IMT (M) Defence Sdn Bhd as alleged," Najib said in his winding-up speech on the motion of thanks on the Royal Address in the Dewan Rakyat here yesterday. He was responding to renewed allegations by Wan Azizah that the purchase of the two submarines worth RM4.5bil involved the payment of a commission exceeding RM540mil to Perimekar.

Wan Azizah had also alleged that Perimekar was owned by Abdul Razak Baginda, who was an adviser to Najib.

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He said the contract was signed on June 5, 2002, by the Malaysian Government with manufacturers DCNS (France) and Navantia (Spain) and Perimekar Sdn Bhd, as the project services provider.

Najib also explained that Syarikat Perimekar Sdn Bhd, which was owned by Armed Forces Welfare Fund, Boustead Holdings Berhad and K.S Ombak Laut Sdn Bhd, had to provide accommodation for 27 families of the officers in France and Spain for six years.

On allegations against him being involved in the murder case of Mongolian Altantuya Shaariibuu, Najib reiterated that he had never met or knew the woman. He also said he did not want to make any comments as the hearing of the case was still going on. "I know that some of the Dewan members are concerned about the court case of the murder of a Mongolian woman, and I also know that there are some members who deliberately tried to link my name to the case. "Let the court play its role and carry out its responsibility to uphold justice in this country without any party interfering," he said.

On the issue of national service, Najib said the Government would continue with the programme as it promotes unity although there were accidents and fatal cases. Najib said the ministry was also considering making medical check-ups compulsory for every trainee. **Source : The Star**

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## SHIPYARD NEWS

### Davie Yards records Q1 loss

Lèvis, Quebec, based Davie Yards Inc. (TSX: DAV) yesterday released its financial and operating results for the three month period ended March 31, 2008.

Revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was US\$10.15 million. EBITDA for the first quarter was negative US\$8.7 million, and the company recorded a net loss of US\$8.7 million. Due to the loss provision taken by the company in Q4 2007, Davie did not record a gross profit during Q1 2008. The loss of US\$8.7 million in Q1 consisted of general overhead expenses and value adjustments in relation to currency options.

Davie has an order backlog of US\$581 million as of end of March 2008, consisting of three Offshore Construction Vessels and two Multipurpose Accommodation Vessels.

The Company continued the ramp-up of the yard during the first quarter of 2008. As of May 12, Davie had 895 employees at the yard, up from 503 employees at year end 2007.

The number of employees is expected to increase further during the coming months as work continues on the completion of vessels already under construction and construction begins on other vessels in the order book.

In February, Davie completed an initial public offering of CDN\$47.3 million, strengthening the Company's financial position.

Davie has appointed Mr. Steinar Kulen as the new CEO, he joined the company March 1st 2008, bringing significant shipbuilding/maritime experience to the company.

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"Since I joined the Company, I have undertaken a thorough analysis of the processes and the projects at Davie. These efforts, coupled with a strategic business analysis, will enable us to finalize an updated version of the company's business plan this summer. I am pleased with what I have learned so far," Mr. Kulen said.

Despite reports that current challenging conditions in the credit markets are having an effect on the order book of shipyards, the market for large complex offshore vessels is strong, and Davie anticipates additional construction contracts in fiscal 2008.

### Ananda Shipyard to Deliver First Ship

Ananda Shipyard and Slipways Ltd, Bangladesh's first ship building and exporting company, reportedly delivered its first cargo ship, Stella Maris, to a Danish owner this week, according to a report on <http://nation.ittefaq.com>

Afruja Bari, Managing Director of Ananda Shipyard and Slipways Ltd, reported called it 'A golden-age of good fortune and economic prosperity is going to be unfolded with this first-ever export of ship to a European country.'

Ananda Shipyard and Slipways Ltd built first class ship at its shipyard in 1992 and first international standard coastal ships in 1998. It has been using computer-controlled plate-cutting machines in shipbuilding industry since 2005.

Source: [nation.ittefaq.com](http://nation.ittefaq.com)

### Strategic Marine Wins Tug Deal

Western Australian shipbuilder Strategic Marine has broken new ground by winning a contract to build a 23.9m new generation compact tug – the first tugboat signing in the company's history.

The vessel, which has a 60 ton bollard pull, has been ordered by the Port of Napier – another breakthrough since the Port becomes Strategic Marine's first New Zealand client.

The steel vessel, which will have a deadweight of 105 tons and a free-running speed of 12 knots, will be powered by a Voith Water Tractor. Strategic Marine, which has built its reputation on high performance aluminum patrol boats and offshore service vessels, won its first contract to build steel-hulled vessels earlier this year from Singapore's Marfield Limited.

The new generation tug and the Marfield order for two 143m steel dive support vessels will be constructed at Strategic Marine's new 136,500sqm Vietnamese shipyard located in Vung Tau, a facility fully equipped to build steel boats. The yard is also currently building the base pontoon for the \$62 million Floating Dry Dock on order from the Australian Marine Complex at Henderson in Western Australia, four 20m landing craft, and 40 12m offshore service vessels. Vietnam Managing Director Mark Schiller said the company was delighted to reach yet another milestone in its business plan.

"This latest project will enable us to develop our reputation in the tugboat market, which is something that our Board of Directors committed to achieving in 2008," Mr Schiller said. Strategic Marine's order book currently stands at more than \$200 million, with most of those orders won in the past 18 months, the majority of them from overseas.

Source : [MarineLink](http://MarineLink)

## ROUTE, PORTS & SERVICES

### Sleephopperzuiger CRESTWAY: aanwinst voor Boskalis vloot



Foto : Piet Sinke ©

Op vrijdag 16 mei 2008, rond 15.00 uur vond de doop en tewaterlating plaats van de 5.600 m<sup>3</sup> sleehopperzuiger **CRESTWAY** op de werf van IHC Merwede in Kinderdijk. Het schip wordt in opdracht van Koninklijke Boskalis Westminster nv gebouwd.

Mevrouw M. Heemskerk-Valk, echtgenote van de heer Drs. H. Heemskerk, lid van de Raad van Commissarissen van Koninklijke Boskalis Westminster en voorzitter van de Raad van Bestuur van Rabobank Nederland, doopte de sleehopperzuiger **CRESTWAY** waarna het schip even later van de helling gleed

De **CRESTWAY** is een zusterschip van de **SHOREWAY** die op 17 april jl. op de werf van IHC Merwede in Sliedrecht te water is gelaten. Beide schepen hebben een lengte van 97,50 meter en een beuninhoud van 5.600 m<sup>3</sup>. De schepen, die door Boskalis wereldwijd zullen worden ingezet op baggerprojecten, zijn speciaal ontworpen voor het baggeren en vervoeren van zand en slib. Zij zijn bij uitstek geschikt voor zowel het werken in ondiep water als voor het onderhoud van havens, strandsuppletie en landaanwinningprojecten.

De **CRESTWAY** en de **SHOREWAY** combineren een no-nonsense ontwerpbenadering met een hoge mate van veelzijdigheid. In de ontwerpfase lag de nadruk op het realiseren van een relatief klein scheepsgewicht met een bijbehorende grote laadcapaciteit.

De bouw van deze hoppers past in de meerjarige vlootplannen van Boskalis. Het programma omvat de bouw van vier sleehopperzuigers variërend van 5.600m<sup>3</sup> tot 12.000m<sup>3</sup>, de verlenging van de **QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS** tot een megahopper van 35.500m<sup>3</sup>, de vervanging van megahopper **WD FAIRWAY** en de bouw van jumbocutterzuiger **PHOENIX**, alsmede een valpijpschip en diverse andere gespecialiseerde schepen voor de energiemarkten. De schepen komen in de vaart van 2007 tot 2012. Daarnaast bereidt Boskalis investeringen voor in een nieuwe generatie jumbocutters, waarmee de onderneming in de komende jaren haar vloot zal aanvullen en op termijn vervangen.

## Sea Wolverine joins DSS fleet

ABG Shipyard Ltd. delivered **Sea Wolverine**, a newbuild anchor handling tug supply vessel (AHTS), to Norway's Deep Sea Supply. **Sea Wolverine** is the second in a series of nine new AHTSs being constructed by ABG Shipyard for Deep Sea Supply. The first, **Sea Otter**, was delivered in October 2007.

**Sea Wolverine**, **Sea Otter** and **Sea Weasel**, which is due for delivery in July, are Seatech P-729 design AHTSs of 6500 bhp. The remaining seven vessels will be 6800 hp, and will be delivered by ABG Shipyard between September 2008 and December 2009.

The vessels are 206 feet (63 meters) in length and are outfitted for anchor handling, towing rescue, offshore supply and related duties. They will be classed by Det Norske Veritas. Main engines are being supplied by Rolls-Royce.

In addition to the AHTS program, Deep Sea Supply is building three new platform supply vessels, all of which will be delivered by the end of the year.

## Torm transfers eight ships from NIS to DIS

**SSG-RINGKØBING.** D/S Torm has again obtained an exemption allowing it to have nationalities other than Danish or EU citizens as captains on Danish flagged ships. The latest exemption covers eight product tankers currently registered the Norwegian International Register (NIS). The exemption makes it possible for Torm to switch these vessels to the Danish flag as part of its support of the strategy to make Denmark the leading European maritime nation by 2015. The exemption also covers seven newbuildings currently under construction in China for delivery within the next 12-14 months. It was granted under protest from maritime leaders, but as they could not guarantee Danish mariners for the vessels, an exemption was granted by the Danish maritime authorities for a period of three years.



The **DOULOS** visited the port of Keelung (Taiwan)

Photo : Peter Lee ©

## EUR 1 billion to develop Greece ports

**SSG-GÖTEBORG.** The Greek government wants to develop the Greek port system at a cost of EUR 1 billion over a period of ten years; the financial package will also include money from the private sector. The aim is to upgrade the infrastructure in twelve ports to handle new requirements regarding transportation of passengers and goods, reports Hellenic Shipping News.



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## Big contract for TTS

**SSG-GÖTEBORG.** TTS Ships Equipment AB in Göteborg has secured a contract worth approximately EUR 50 million for cargo access equipment for the world's largest ro-ro vessels under construction at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries in Japan. Swedish Wallenius and Norwegian Wilh Wilhelmsen have each ordered two vessels for delivery in 2011–2012. The vessels will be operated by Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics, the two companies' joint venture.

## Oman, Netherlands and India link in new Mega Project

On May 14, 2008, witnessed by the Sohar Industrial Port Company SAOC (SIPC) shareholders the Government of the Sultanate of Oman represented by HE Maqbool bin Ali bin Sultan, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Chairman of the Board of (SIPC) and the Port of Rotterdam, represented by its CEO Hans Smits, SIPC entered the next phase for the development and expansion of the Port of Sohar by signing Heads of Agreement with SKIL Infrastructure to partner in the development and the launching of the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) of Sohar. Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are proven tools of economic growth worldwide and provide opportunities to attract investments within the defined geographical boundary of a country.

The SEZ of Sohar will be developed adjacent and directly connected to the already established Port of Sohar. This close proximity has considerable logistic advantages and also provides quality infrastructure services making the investments even more competitive. It will also create employment for the people living in the Batinah region, enhances the existing foreign direct investment in the Port of Sohar area and shift dependence to the non energy sector thus contributing to the sustainable regional economic development of the North Batinah region. SKIL, the Mumbai based infrastructure and development company, are pioneers in conceptualizing and developing SEZs and intends to bring their expertise and know-how on a strategic level for the development and management of the Special Economic Zone in Sohar. SKIL developed the first private port in India, built one of the world's largest shipyards and has attracted international investors in it.

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The Government of the Sultanate of Oman and the Port of Rotterdam (POR) signed in 2007 an agreement expanding the concession agreement in Sohar from 2000 ha to 6300 ha including the 4300 ha Special Economic Zone. The SEZ of Sohar is expected to be launched in Q4 2008.



The **Queen Elizabeth 2**, seen moored in Trieste on 13.05.2008  
Photo : Zvonimir Santek ©

## Kapitan Gotsky named

**SSG-TALLINN.** On 9 May, Sovcomflot named the arctic shuttle tanker **Kapitan Gotsky** at Samsung Heavy Industries in South Korea. The godmother was Linda Chiang, wife of W.C.W. Chiang, vice president of ConocoPhillips. The 70,000 DWT **Kapitan Gotsky** has a length of 257 metres, a beam of 34 metres and a draft of 14 metres. The vessel, which can sail at a speed of 16 knots, will be delivered at the end of May.

The **Kapitan Gotsky** is the second vessel in a series of three double-acting tankers with ice class 1A super, which are being built to transport oil from the Varandey field where Lukoil's and ConocoPhillip's joint venture company is operating. All the vessels in the series will be registered in the Russian international register with St. Petersburg as their home port.

## Maersk Line ends its Mediterranean/Brazil Itajai Express service

Maersk Line will next month terminate its Mediterranean/Brazil Itajai Express service and instead take space aboard a Hamburg Söd service in the North Europe/East Coast South America trade. "The vessels on this string (Itajai Express) have not been fully utilized and the closure is as an effort to match the actual requirements of the market and allow for an acceptable return on investments in this trade," Maersk said in a statement. The Itajai Express uses three ships of about 2,800 TEUs -- instead of the five needed to maintain a weekly frequency -- on a rotation of Gioia Tauro, Algeciras, Vitoria, Santos, Paranagua, Itajai, Rio de Janeiro, Tangiers and Gioia Tauro.

The last southbound sailing will be made by the Maersk Jamestown, which is expected to depart Algeciras June 20. The same vessel will also cover the last northbound sailing leaving Rio de Janeiro July 6. Maersk will in the future load all cargo from Brazil to the Mediterranean on its L-class and SAMEX services via Tangiers, Morocco, where sister company APM Terminals has recently opened a new facility.

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Those two services are also due for a makeover as Maersk said that from July it will alter the port coverage but still keep it "in line with our customers' varying requirements." The Copenhagen-based carrier also intends to slow the speed of the ships on the two services, something it admitted will stretch transit times in certain corridors but will benefit the environment by reducing emissions.

With the end of the Itajai Express, Maersk will take slots on the River Plate Express service of Germany's Hamburg Süd, effective from the southbound departure of the Monte Cervantes from Rotterdam on June 20. The River Plate Express deploys six 5,552-TEU vessels and has an itinerary of Rotterdam, Tilbury, Hamburg, Antwerp, Le Havre, Santos, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Rio Grande, Santos, Sepetiba and Rotterdam.

"This product, which covers main destinations on the East Coast of South America and in Europe, will provide our customers with a reliable service that includes adequate time in the schedule for operational contingency and ensures sufficient space during peak seasons," Maersk said. Maersk previously took space on the River Plate Express, and another Hamburg Süd service in the same trade, Brazil Express, until the agreement expired Jan. 1, 2007. **Source:** [americanshipper](#)



Iskes tug **ARGUS** seen assisting the **MONTECRISTO** through the IJmuiden locks

Photo : Jan Plug ©

## Norwegian delivery from Dockstavarvet

**SSG-GÖTEBORG.** Swedish yard Dockstavarvet AB has delivered a pilot boat for the Norwegian Coastal Administration (NCA) for the pilot station in Fedje outside Bergen. **LOS 116** is the first boat in a series based on an existing hull design from NCA, adjusted for twin main engines. The propulsion system from MTU/Swedmotor, developing 2x720 kW, will give it a speed of 27 knots. NCA has an option on five more units.

## MOL to add 53 ore carriers to its fleet

MOL (Mitsui O.S.K Lines) will take delivery of 53 ore carriers between now and to early 2014 to meet rising demand for iron ore transport due to a increased steel production. The deliveries consists of four 300,000 DWT vessels, two



250,000 DWT vessels, seven 230,000 DWT vessels, one 200,000 DWT vessel, 27 170,000 DWT vessels, ten 110,000 DWT vessels and two 80,000 DWT vessels. The company has already concluded mid and long-term contracts for 40 percent of the 53 new building vessels and eventually 60 per cent of the new ships will sail under mid- or long arrangements. By the end of March 2014 the fleet will in total consist of 160 vessels (including 135 Capesize vessels and 25 Panamax vessels). **Source: shipgaz.com**

## **CKYH Alliance resumes AWE-Central service**

CKYH Alliance (COSCON, "K"LINE, Yang Ming and Hanjin Shipping) is pleased to announce that AWE (All Water East Coast)-Central service will be resumed from May 20th, 2008. AWE-Central service, jointly operated by CKYH Alliance, will deploy 8 x 4000TEU class vessels. The rotation of AWE-Central service will be Xiamen, Yantian, Ningbo, Shanghai, Busan, Savannah, Norfolk, Charleston and back to Xiamen.

Along with the reintroduction of this service, CKYH Alliance will be in a position to provide greater satisfaction to its customers. **Source: nykline.com**

## **Greece gets three bids for Thessaloniki port**

Greece's second largest port, Thessaloniki Port Authority said on Thursday that China's Cosco Pacific, Hutchison Port Holdings and Dubai Port World DBW.DI had submitted bids to run its cargo facilities. Greece launched a tender to sell parts of its ports in Piraeus and Thessaloniki (OLTH), among the biggest in the Mediterranean, in a bid to turn them into regional hubs and boost their cargo business. "The first phase of the tender is complete with three of the world's top port administrators submitting bids," OLTH said.

Dubai ports bid jointly with Piraeus Bank and construction firm Aktor. "The interest of these three investors exceeds any optimistic projection, they have long experience in the world ports industry," Greek Merchant Marine Minister George Voulgarakis said. Last week, Piraeus Port Authority (OLP) got two bids, one from Hutchison Port Holdings teaming up with pharmaceutical firm Alapis and one from Cosco Pacific.

The winners of the tenders for Piraeus and Thessaloniki will operate and expand three of their commercial docks for up to 35 years. The companies have not said when the winners will be announced. Dockers protesting against the government's plans to partly privatise Greece's major ports have refused to work overtime since the start of the year -- causing serious delays in container processing -- as they fear job cuts. "The completion of the tenders will mean more jobs for port employees. I urge them to return to their normal working hours," Voulgarakis said. **Source : Reuters**

## **Evergreen, COSCON split CPG service**

Citing increasing shipper demand, Evergreen and COSCON are to replace their current joint CPG service with their own separate services. The two companies will each launch a weekly independent service to cover the China/Arabian Persian Gulf route starting from earlier June 2008. However an Evergreen statement says: "Evergreen will keep cooperation with COSCON in this trade lane through the slot swap arrangement. With these two new loops, Evergreen and COSCON will be able to widen the range of market visibility in Far East/Middle East trade."

Evergreen will deploy six 3,400 TEU vessels into China and Arabian Persian Gulf service (CPG2) with the rotation as Qingdao-Shanghai-Ningbo-Yantian-Hong Kong-Tanjung Pelepas-Jebel Ali-Dammam-Nhava Sheva-Singapore-Kaohsiung-Qingdao. COSCON will operate five 3,400TEU vessels into China and Persian Gulf service (CPG1) with the rotation as Shanghai-Ningbo-Yantian-Singapore-Jebel Ali-Banda Abbas-Karachi-Singapore-Shanghai. **Source: mglobal.com**

## **Prisco pair for sale**

A pair of Primorsk Shipping Corp (Prisco) chemical tankers have hit the sale-and-purchase market. Brokers report Friday that the Russian owner's 46,000-dwt **Marchekan** and **Monneron** (both built 1998) are for sale.

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Primorsky Krai-based Prisco has three of the Daedong-built vessels, including the 46,000-dwt **Moskalvo** (built 1998).

The **Marchekan** is loading in Rotterdam for discharge in New York, while the **Monneron** will be loading at Santa Panagia, Italy, between 23 and 25 May. **Source : Tradewinds**

### MOVEMENTS



The **ORANGE SKY** seen outward from Rotterdam during the Sunset  
**Photo : George Vermeulen ©**



**Stena Leader** seen in the channel to/from Fleetwood  
**Photo : Geoff Whitworth ©**

.... PHOTO OF THE DAY ....



ASL yardnumber **817** seen in Singapore waters during Fi-Fi tests  
Photo : **Ton Has** ©

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