

Delivery of MS „PALMERTON“ to Harren & Partner

Bremen/Kouan 7th December 2009, 10:30 MEZ: Harren & Partner takes over the MS “PALMERTON” as the first ship of a new generation of heavy-lift special-purpose vessels. The series, totalling 6 10.000 tdw carrying heavy lift carriers, is being built at the Chinese shipyard Taizhou Kouhan Shipbuilding. “With this ship we were able to contribute the long standing experience that we have in the field of heavy-lift and project cargo from drafting to construction supervision and are very satisfied with the result” says Peter Harren, founder of the shipping company, with reference to the delivery of MS “PALMERTON”.

MS “PALMERTON” and her sister ships are, above all, characterised by special features such as the high ice class “GL-E3” and the classification “Great Lakes fitted” which opens to these ships a large number of areas which are difficult to access. Furthermore, this type of vessel is equipped with two powerful 450 tonne heavy-cargo cranes, which, when combined amount to a crane capacity of 900 tonnes.

The unique deck construction is a further characteristic of these ships, as they are equipped with a so-called “flush deck”. Heiko Felderhoff, technical project manager of Harren & Partner, considers the construction a true competitive advantage: “The flush deck enables us to use the total width of the vessel when loading large units and to transport them on deck when exceeding the dimensions of the vessel. In order to use the total width of the vessel, crane bearings as well as the railing can quickly be removed as they are only bolted. Furthermore, we do not have to mount extra load bearing structures at the side of the vessel so that complex welding and expensive steel can be saved. In addition to that port time as well as port dues can be minimised”.

A further characteristic is the integrated (box-shaped) cargo hold with a length of more than 90 meters. With a height of 12 meters, especially long and high project cargoes can be transported below deck, so that complex cargo units do not have to be disassembled before shipment and are simultaneously protected from environmental conditions.

MS “PALMERTON” is chartered by KS Combi Lift, whose core competency is the comprehensive service of transportation of complex heavy-lift and project cargo. Managing director Anders Poulsen: “Due to the unique construction and technical characteristics of this type of vessel, “PALMERTON” can be placed in numerous areas of the project cargo segment, however, we also see ideal possibilities in the oil and power generation sectors”. On her maiden voyage from South Korea to Thailand for KS Combi Lift, the vessel will transport several modules with a unit weight of more than 550 tonnes each.

Along with Anders Poulsen, Harren & Partner celebrated the christening at the Kouan shipyard. The godmother of “PALMERTON” was Imke Harren, who joined the family business at the beginning of this year.