



Island Supply Ship Contract Awarded to Hamburg's Sietas Shipyard

Shipping company AG Reederei Norden-Frisia, which is based on the German island of Norderney, has awarded the contract to construct a cargo ship to serve island routes to Hamburg shipyard J.J. Sietas KG.

“Sietas is a reputable German shipyard that made us a good offer whilst guaranteeing high standards of quality and a fixed delivery date”, says Carl-Ulfert Stegmann, Managing Director of Norden-Frisia. The new vessel will be handed over to the shipping company in summer 2010.

In placing the order, Norden-Frisia is responding to the requirement for transport capacity to supply island regions (which has been growing steadily for a number of years) as well as the rising demand for project cargo in the area of the East Frisian coast. At present, orders can only be managed by making greater use of the RORO freight vessel Frisia VII.

“Looking ahead to the next few years, we believe the volume of freight will continue to increase”, says Carl-Ulfert Stegmann. In view of highly positive experiences with the Frisia VII, the RORO freighter that entered service in 1994, a virtually identical sister ship will now be built. In common with the Frisia VII, the new ship will be equipped with a bow door and hydraulically adjustable stern door in order to flexibly accommodate heavy road vehicles or other rolling loads; once again, there will be anchor piles fore and aft so that the vessel can be positioned independently of fixtures on land.

Rüdiger Fuchs, CEO for the Sietas shipyard, says, “We are delighted that the Norden-Frisia shipping company has awarded us this contract and demonstrated its trust in both the Sietas yard and German shipbuilding expertise. Norden-Frisia will benefit from our technical expertise and the familiar Sietas quality as well as the close cooperation between our organisations throughout the planning, design and construction phases.”

Sietas is undergoing the transformation from a traditional shipbuilding operation into an industrial shipyard dedicated to the manufacture of special-purpose ships. The Hamburg yard has seven ships on its order book at present, including the new order from Norden-Frisia; seven more have been delivered throughout this year. Founded in 1635, the Sietas shipyard is part of the Hamburg-based Sietas Group, which incorporates three other subsidiary companies: Neuenfelder Maschinenfabrik, Norderwerft and Neuenfelder Wohnungsgesellschaft.

For over 135 years, AG Reederei Norden-Frisia has been ensuring supplies reach the East Frisian islands of Norderney and Juist all year round. Every year, some 2.2 million passengers and around 175,000 vehicles are carried to the islands by means of five combined passenger/vehicle ferries, three passenger ships and a RORO cargo ship. To enhance its service to the tidally dependent island of Juist, Norden-Frisia also operates an air service of its own from Norddeich, thus providing transport to another 55,000 guests annually. Over the past two years, the shipping company has gained a foothold on the emerging market for offshore wind energy in the North Sea area with three special-purpose ships and other services. With other participating interests, the company is now well placed to offer a wide range of maritime services.

Both parties have agreed not to disclose the value of the shipbuilding contract.

Norddeich, December 2009

Press contacts:

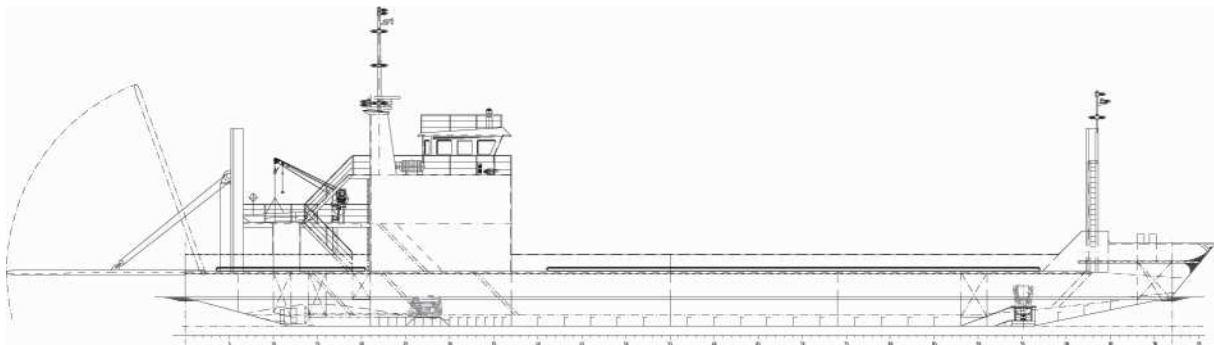
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Sietas shipyard

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Key data

Flag:	German
Length over all:	68.00 m
Breadth:	10.80 m
Max. draught:	1.60 m
Approx. tonnage:	400 t
Port of registry:	Norddeich