# **Press Release**



Hamburg, 10 February 2016

### Hapag-Lloyd purchases two ships and further optimizes its fleet

### Acquisition of two modern wide-beam vessels for first deployment in the South American business / Two more identical ships chartered / Four efficient wide-beam vessels chartered for Mediterranean–Canada service

Hapag-Lloyd has today taken delivery of two modern 3,500-TEU ships with a special widebeam design from the Dutch shipping company NileDutch. The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price of the two vessels, which are to be initially deployed in South America. The wide-beam design of the hull means that the ships, which were built in 2015, maintain a comparatively high slot capacity despite having a lower draught, thereby making them particularly well suited for ports with shallow water as for example some South American ports. Hapag-Lloyd is also chartering two more identical ships from NileDutch's same series, both of which will be deployed together with their sister ships.

"For Hapag-Lloyd, these state-of-the-art and highly efficient vessels represent an important enhancement of the fleet," said Anthony J. Firmin, COO of Hapag-Lloyd. "Alongside our market leadership in certain trades, such as the Atlantic, we also strengthen our position in an attractive niche market further such as the cabotage business in South America, where we will be initially deploying the new vessels."

In order to reinforce Hapag-Lloyd's leading position in the North Atlantic, four more wide-beam ships are being chartered in to the Hapag-Lloyd fleet for services between the Mediterranean and Montreal, Canada. The highly efficient ships, which are two years old and have an operating capacity of some 2,700 TEU, will replace the existing, older tonnage. They are equipped for sailing through ice and also have a comparatively low draught, which is an

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advantage for travelling on the St. Lawrence River. This further strengthens Hapag-Lloyd's market leading position in Canada.

Hapag-Lloyd's fleet currently comprises 177 ships and, at around 7.2 years, has a low, competitive average age. The average vessel size at Hapag-Lloyd exceeds the industry average as well as that of the top ten competitors.

#### About Hapag-Lloyd

With a fleet of 177 modern container ships, Hapag-Lloyd is one of the world's leading liner shipping companies. The Company has around 9,500 employees at 353 sites in 117 countries. With the acquisition of CSAV's container business in December 2014, the Hapag-Lloyd fleet now offers a total transport capacity of almost one million standard containers (TEU) as well as a container capacity of 1.6 million TEU – including one of the largest fleets of reefer containers. A total of 122 liner services worldwide ensure fast, reliable connections between all the continents. Hapag-Lloyd is a founding member of the G6 Alliance, one of the largest shipping alliances in the world, and is one of the leading operators in the Transatlantic and Latin America trades.

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