



Shreyas Shipping and Logistics acquires its 'First' Bulk Carrier Vessel

Shreyas Shipping and Logistics Limited, a part of Transworld Group of Companies, has announced the acquisition of one bulk carrier vessel. With this acquisition, Shreyas embarks into a new line of business of owning bulk carrier vessels. This is Shreyas' first bulk carrier, which has been acquired for USD 14.175 mio. The second bulk carrier vessel is expected to be delivered by end of November 2021. Mr. Ramesh S. Ramakrishnan, Executive Chairman, Shreyas Shipping and Logistics Limited shared his thoughts on this occasion "It gives me immense pleasure to announce that the Company has acquired its first bulk carrier vessel which will be renamed as TBC Badrinath. With this, the vessel strength of the company stands at 12 ships. As advised earlier, we are likely to get the delivery of our second bulk carrier by end of November 2021. Our strengths built around Excellence in Leadership, Process, People and market penetration will be the key to sustainability and growth. We can look forward to a year full of opportunities and growth." Capt. Milind Patankar, Managing Director, Shreyas Shipping and Logistics Limited also shared his thoughts "We are excited about this new acquisition. We are confident of the growth potential of bulk carrier vessels."

APM Terminals to operate new container terminal in Louisiana

APM Terminals will operate the newly planned container terminal and intermodal rail facility in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, United States, after the letter of intent announced by both Plaquemines Port, Harbor and Terminal District (PPHTD) and APMT. The facility is located on the Mississippi River and is in the early stages of development as a 15.2 meters deep water depth container terminal in Plaquemines Parish of Louisiana. The gateway port will facilitate multimodal routing options of rail, truck, inland marine and air, and it will also be environmentally friendly, powered by a combination of natural gas and electricity. External parties will be the investor in the new port, while, according to a statement, Plaquemines Port and their financial partners will manage the financial activities related to the infrastructure development, investment, and ownership of the port. "Special focus will be on utilising modern infrastructure technology and engineering to withstand storm surges and wind damage in the design of the port," said APM Terminals. The first phase of construction is expected to last two years, delivering the capability to handle 22,000-TEU class vessels with the ability to expand capacity as needed.

COSCO's Indian ocean service completes maiden voyage

COSCO Shipping has announced the completion of the maiden voyage of the Indian Ocean Service, with the first container ship of the service having berthed at Yangpu International Container Terminal in China. The Indian Ocean Service constitutes another ocean intercontinental service line connected with the operated by Hainan Harbor and Shipping Holding Co., Ltd, Yangpu, following the opening of the first intercontinental transoceanic service route at Hainan Free Trade Port in September 2020. COSCO said that it marked the improvement in the capacity of Yangpu International Container Terminal, after expansion and renovation in accommodating service on major regional ocean routes, laying the foundation for Yangpu to embrace major international service routes and promote the upgrading of transport capacity. The Chinese shipping company has built up a new pattern of development with Yangpu as a hub that serves both domestic and foreign trade, covering ASEAN, South Pacific and Indian Ocean. So far, the domestic trade routes have basically covered major basic ports in China's coastal regions, and the foreign ones have fully covered the coastal ASEAN countries and further extended to the South Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

World's first electric autonomous cargo ship launched in Norway

Zero emissions and, soon, zero crew: the world's first fully electric autonomous cargo vessel was unveiled in Norway, a small but promising step toward reducing the maritime industry's climate footprint. By shipping up to 120 containers of fertilizer from a plant in the southeastern town of Porsgrunn to the Brevik port a dozen kilometres (about eight miles) away, the much-delayed Yara Birkeland, shown off to the media on Friday, will eliminate the need for around 40,000 truck journeys a year that are now fuelled by polluting diesel. "Of course, there have been difficulties and setbacks," said Svein Tore Holsether, chief executive of Norwegian fertiliser giant Yara. "But then it feels even more rewarding to stand here today in front this ship and see that we were able to do it," he said, with the sleek blue-and-white vessel moored behind him in an Oslo dock, where it had been sailed for the event. The 80-metre, 3,200-deadweight tonne ship will soon begin two years of working trials during which it will be fine-tuned to learn to manoeuvre on its own. The wheelhouse could disappear altogether in "three, four or five years", said Holsether, once the vessel makes its 7.5-nautical-mile trips on its own with the aid of sensors.

GAC to Sell Biodiesel-Blend Bunkers in the Middle East and India

GAC's marine fuel arm has announced a new partnership to supply a biodiesel fuel blend for shipping in the UAE, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and India. To make this green fuel available, GAC Bunker Fuels is partnering with Dubai-based Neutral Fuels, an established producer of biodiesel derived from waste cooking oil. "Deploying our Net Zero biofuel in the maritime sector will play a key role in helping to achieve the new carbon emission reduction targets set by the International Maritime Organisation," said Gary Hubbard, the chief commercial officer of Neutral Fuels. "Adoption of cleaner biofuels is much quicker when we work in close collaboration with leading companies such as the GAC Group. It means that the whole sector can become part of the solution to climate change, rather than remaining part of the problem." The fuel will be available to vessel operators as a blend with petroleum-based bunker fuel, mixed at varying percentages. The service makes good on GAC's recent decarbonization pledges. GAC recently joined the Getting to Zero Coalition, pledging to achieve net-zero operations, and it has signed on to the group's call to decarbonize the shipping industry by 2050. The ships' agency views biofuel as a potential solution, providing its customers with a near-term option to reduce their carbon footprint.

APM Terminals Mumbai secures weekly intra-Asia service operated by RCL feeders led consortium

APM Terminals Mumbai also known as Gateway Terminals India (GTI) has secured a new weekly intra-Asia service. The service, known as RWA1 (RCL feeders China-Western India Service) is operated jointly by RCL Feeders, Pacific International Lines, CU Lines and Inter Asia Lines using 5 vessels in a 35-day rotation with RCL feeders being the berth window holder. The maiden call of the service was received at the terminal in Mumbai on November 15. The loop includes the ports of Nansha-Shekou – Singapore – Westport – Northport – Nhava Sheva – Mundra – Westport – Haiphong – Nansha. Speaking on the new call, Mr. Girish Aggarwal, COO, GTI said "GTI has always been at the forefront of customer service and we are glad to be a part of this service that connects Asia with our port. The service will provide an opportunity to our customers to expand their market and connect to Asian countries that are untapped. We believe our infrastructure and capabilities will help us to operate this service in the most efficient manner, thereby ensuring cost-effective and safe transit of cargoes of our customers."

Bahrain joins world logistics passport programme

The World Logistics Passport (WLP) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bahraini Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications, bringing another GCC member state into the Dubai-administered global freight loyalty programme as a gateway participant, thereby enhancing the Kingdom of Bahrain's access to global markets and offering businesses direct benefits. The WLP is a global, private sector-led, initiative designed to smooth the flow of world trade. It operates as an incentive-based loyalty programme that rewards traders and freight forwarders for high levels of trade by unlocking market access to new and existing trading routes. The signing of the MoU represents a significant deepening of trade ties between Bahrain and the UAE and demonstrates a strategic commitment from the two signatories to implement the WLP. The Bahraini Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications will act as a coordinating Partner, bringing traders and freight forwarders onboard the WLP programme.