

Ponant Cruises order two new luxury cruise liners

Ponant Cruises (Compagnie des Iles du Ponant (CIP)), subsidiary of the **CMA-CGM Group** has signed a memorandum of understanding with Italy's Fincantieri shipyards, the world's leading cruise ship builder, for the construction of two luxuriously small capacity cruise ships.

These elegantly trim vessels are mega-yachts (140 meters long) that accommodate a limited number of guests (130 all-outside cabins and suites including 75% with balconies). They will be delivered in **second quarter 2010** and are to be French flagged. The vessels will be equipped with the latest advances designed to protect the environment including a dynamic positioning system that enables them to avoid damaging the sea floor during mooring.

As new additions to the current fleet (including Le Ponant, Le Levant, and Le Diamant), these ships will offer a unique cruise experience and first-class quality service sailing to uncommon destinations. Guests will take advantage of theme cruises as well as adventure itineraries in a highly personal setting designed to pamper passengers.

Both vessels will be operating mainly in new geographic areas. The first will sail to Asia (China, Japan, Vietnam, and Indonesia), Alaska, Polynesia and Oceania, with the second traveling to South America (including Antarctica), the Mediterranean, the Baltic, Greenland, Canada, the Great Lakes, and the Caribbean. Both ships will be able to visit quaint harbors and destinations that remain inaccessible to larger cruise ships.

This major announcement at Ponant Cruises, where 2007 sales totaled 36 million euros, comes as the company celebrates its 20-year anniversary. The news reflects CMA-CGM's commitment to strengthening its subsidiary's offering of high-end luxury yacht cruises to rare and exotic destinations.

Now more than ever, CMA CGM is looking to cultivate the unparalleled *savoir-faire* of Ponant Cruises, the number one French flagged cruise ship operator.

Ponant Cruises corporate offices are located in Marseilles and Paris (France).

For further information, please contact:

Eric Lustman – Executive Vice-President, Sales & Marketing

Email : elustman@ponant.com Tel : +33 1 42 56 54 50

About Ponant Cruises (Compagnie des Iles du Ponant)

The Compagnie des Iles du Ponant is a subsidiary of CMA CGM since 2004, operating small capacity luxury cruise liners specializing in high-end travel. Created in 1988, the company posted sales of € 36 million and welcomed 11,000 cruise guests in 2007.

About CMA CGM

Led by its founder Jacques R. Saadé, CMA CGM is currently the world's third largest container shipping company and is ranked number one in France. Operating a fleet of 377 vessels, including 101 company-owned, the Group serves 400 ports of call around the world. In 2007 it carried over seven million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units). With a presence on all continents and in 150 countries through its network of 600 agencies, the Group employs 16,000 people including 4,200 in France.

Ship design: Striling Design International (Nantes-France)

