

## Press Release

### **The world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel "Kairos" has started its voyage to Europe**

**Hamburg, October 17th, 2018**

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel "Kairos" has started its voyage from the shipyard in South Korea to the ship's primary area of operation in Northwest Europe. The ship, with an LNG capacity of 7,500 m<sup>3</sup>, will be ready for operations before the end of 2018.

Mahinde Abeynaike, CEO of Nauticor, which holds 90 percent of the joint venture that charters the vessel, emphasized the crucial role of the LNG bunker vessel for the LNG supply: "The arrival of the "Kairos" in the Baltic Sea will set a milestone for LNG as a ship fuel. From then on, supply of LNG as a marine fuel in the Baltic Sea is secured on a large-scale basis. This is a great step for sustainable and responsible shipping with a large impact on air and water quality. I would like to give my respect to our team and our partners – it is a great achievement to deliver such a complex and first of its kind vessel on schedule".

Mindaugas Jusius, CEO of Klaipėdos nafta (KN), which holds the remaining 10 percent of the joint venture, points out that the new ship will ensure an efficient LNG reloading station service in the Port of Klaipėda (Lithuania) and offer a full LNG logistics chain in the Baltic Sea Region to its customers.

"The main advantage and ambition of the new vessel is to ensure more competitive pricing for the LNG reloading station users. It will not only reduce the cost of the LNG supply chain, but will also ensure the smooth and reliable service to distribution station users in Klaipėda," noted Mindaugas Jusius.

The construction of the vessel started in 2016 when the joint venture signed a time-charter agreement with ship owner Babcock Schulte Energy (BSE). In February 2018, steel cutting took place at Hyundai Mipo Dockyard (HMD) in Ulsan, South Korea.

With a tank capacity of 7,500 m<sup>3</sup>, „Kairos“ is the world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel. The vessel has several other unique features, including the ballast-free design and installation of a CNG tank to store vapour return gas from customer vessels.



Clean shipping powered by Linde

**Nauticor GmbH & Co. KG**

The Hamburg based company Nauticor GmbH & Co. KG is a leading supplier of liquefied natural gas (LNG) as fuel for ships. As a part of The Linde Group, a world-wide leading gas and engineering company, Nauticor combines a broad range of competencies in cryogenic technology, logistics, and bunkering to develop LNG supply solutions for maritime customers in Northwest Europe, especially the North and Baltic Sea. It is Nauticor's strategy to cover the entire LNG value chain from the terminal to the end customer, including sourcing, transport, storage and bunkering in all strategically important ports.

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