

Press Release

World's largest LNG bunker supply vessel "Kairos" christened by godmother Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Federal chairman of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU)

Hamburg, February 11th, 2019

On February 8th, 2019, the world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel "Kairos" was officially christened in the port of Hamburg. The ceremony took place at the Hamburg Cruise Center Steinwerder, with more than 250 guests witnessing the christening of the vessel by Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Federal Chairman of the Christian-Democratic Union (CDU). With the words, "May god bless her and all who sail on her", Mrs. Kramp-Karrenbauer wished the ship always a safe journey and a hand-span of water under the keel.

Mahinde Abeynaike, CEO of Nauticor, underlined the importance of achieving this important milestone: "The christening of "Kairos" today here in Hamburg, is the result of several years of thorough preparation by Nauticor's team and its partners. With the commissioning of the world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel, the availability of LNG as fuel for shipping on a large-scale basis is secured, e.g. in the Baltic Sea. With shipping companies having access to a fuel that is not only financially attractive, but also environmentally sustainable, people and nature in Northwest Europe will benefit from a substantial reduction of emissions at sea and in port."

Mrs. Kramp-Karrenbauer agreed and pointed out the significance of this project: "The commissioning of this vessel is not only important for the German shipping industry, but addressing environmental concerns in general and the global move towards more sustainable transport modes at sea."

Nauticor chartered the "Kairos" via the joint venture Blue LNG, where Nauticor has a 90 % share and Lithuanian energy infrastructure provider KN (Klaipėdos Nafta) has a 10 % share, from the owner Babcock Schulte Energy.

With a tank capacity of 7,500 m³, „Kairos“, is the world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel. The ice class 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. The construction of the vessel started in 2016 and in February 2018, steel cutting took place at Hyundai Mipo Dockyard (HMD) in Ulsan, South Korea, from where the vessel was delivered in October 2018

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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.

Contact person Nauticor:

Jan Schubert

Senior Manager Sales & Business Development

+49 (0) 40 468 959 331