

Press Release

Nauticor and Destination Gotland start LNG bunkering in the port of Visby for MS "Visborg" with the world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel "Kairos"

Hamburg, March 19th, 2019

On March 15th, 2019, the world's largest bunker supply vessel (BSV) for liquefied natural gas (LNG) "Kairos" has conducted the first LNG bunker supply operation for the newbuild ferry MS "Visborg" at the ferry pier of the port of Visby.

The bunker operation puts into practice the contract for the supply of LNG, which was signed by Nauticor, a leading supplier of LNG as marine fuel, and Destination Gotland, the owner and operator of the new ferry, in December 2017 and enables the ferry to run its service on the environmental-friendly fuel while connecting the Swedish mainland with the island of Gotland.

Mahinde Abeynaïke, CEO of Nauticor, underlined the importance of achieving this important milestone: "The start of LNG bunkering for Destination Gotland's new LNG fuelled ferry "Visborg" marks the start-up of bunker operations with our new LNG bunker supply vessel "Kairos" and shows that the availability of LNG as fuel for shipping on a large-scale basis is secured in Northwest Europe. With shipping companies having access to a fuel that not only is financially attractive, but also environmentally sustainable, people and nature in Northwest Europe, and especially along the Swedish East coast, will benefit from a substantial reduction of emissions at sea and in port."

By using LNG, a wide range of emissions, especially sulphur, nitrogen and particle matters, as well as carbon dioxide, can be significantly reduced.

Richard Schröder, Director Finance & Operations of Nauticor, emphasized the importance of cooperation to realize such projects: "The successful first LNG ship-to-ship bunker operation in the port of Visby is the result of intensive preparation by Nauticor's team, its partners and authorities. The team of Nauticor is convinced that cooperation between first movers, suppliers and users, and the support from the authorities in charge is the key to establish LNG as fuel for shipping."

With a tank capacity of 7,500 m³, "Kairos" is the world's largest LNG bunker supply vessel. Nauticor chartered the "Kairos" via the joint venture Blue LNG from the owner Babcock Schulte Energy, where Nauticor has a 90 % share and Lithuanian energy infrastructure provider KN (Klaipėdos Nafta) has a 10 % share.

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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 strategically important ports.

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