

Press release - 17 April 2008

Trailing suction hopper dredger SHOREWAY: a boost for the Boskalis fleet



trailing suction hopper dredger SHOREWAY

Today at about 4:15 p.m. the name giving and launch of the 5,600m³ trailing suction hopper dredger SHOREWAY will take place at the IHC Merwede yard in Sliedrecht. The ship is being built for Royal Boskalis Westminster nv.

The name giving and launch will be performed by Mrs. M. Scheurwater-van Mourik, the wife of Mr. T. Scheurwater, the chairman of the Works Council of Royal Boskalis Westminster nv.

The SHOREWAY is the first of two medium-sized 5,600m³ hoppers that Boskalis is having built. Her sister ship, the CRESTWAY, is currently under construction at IHC Dredgers in Kinderdijk, where she will be launched on 16 May of this year.

Both ships are 97.5m long, with a hopper capacity of 5,600m³. They will be used in global Boskalis dredging operations, and they have been specially designed for dredging and the transportation of sand and sludge. They are ideal both for working in shallow waters and for the maintenance of harbours, beach replenishment and land reclamation projects.

The SHOREWAY and CRESTWAY combine a no-nonsense approach to design with a high level of versatility. During the design phase, the emphasis was on keeping the weight of the vessel relatively low, while maximising hopper capacity.

The construction of the SHOREWAY and CRESTWAY fits in with the Boskalis multi-year fleet plans. The programme includes the construction of four trailing suction hopper dredgers varying from 5,600 to 12,000m³, the extension of the Queen of the Netherlands to transform it into a 35,500m³ mega-hopper, the replacement of the mega-hopper the WD Fairway, the construction of the jumbo cutter suction dredger the Phoenix, and various other specialist vessels for the energy markets. The ships will go into service between 2007 and 2012.

In addition, Boskalis is making preparations for investments in a new generation of jumbo cutters that will supplement its fleet in the years to come, replacing it in the longer term.



Boskalis Profile

Royal Boskalis Westminster nv is an international group with a leading position in the world market for dredging services. Its core activities are the construction and maintenance of ports and waterways, land reclamation, coastal defence and riverbank protection. The company holds ten home market positions in and outside Europe and targets all market segments in the dredging industry. It also has positions in strategic partnerships in the Middle East (Archirodon) and in offshore services (Lamnalco). Boskalis has a versatile fleet of over 300 units and operates in over 50 countries across five continents. Including its share in partnerships, Boskalis has approximately 8,000 employees.

IHC Merwede Profile

IHC Merwede is focused on the continuous development of its design and construction activities for the specialised shipbuilding sector, in particular the dredging and offshore industries. IHC Merwede is world market leader in the construction of specialist dredging equipment and complex custom-built offshore vessels. The clients of IHC Merwede include major dredging companies, oil and gas exploration groups, offshore contractors and government authorities. IHC Merwede has a staff of approximately 2,200 at its locations in the Netherlands. There are also branches in the UK, China, Houston (USA), India, the Middle East, Russia and Singapore.

Note for the editor, not for publication

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Pictures will be available from Friday 18 April under “news” on our website:

www.ihcmerwede.com

Persbericht



Additional information

The SHOREWAY is a twin-screw trailing suction hopper dredger. She is equipped with a suction pipe on the port side with an inner diameter of 1,000mm, and can dredge to a maximum depth of 33m.

The maximum hopper capacity is 8,362 tons, and the draught is only 7.10m. The dredged material can be discharged through two rows of rectangular doors in the bottom of the hopper. Other options are the use of the system for pumping the dredged material to the shore through a floating line, or "rainbowing" through a pipe mounted on the bows of the vessel. The ship has accommodation for a crew of fourteen.

Main features

Name	SHOREWAY
Type	trailing suction hopper dredger
Client	Royal Boskalis Westminster nv
Builder	IHC Dredgers B.V. / IHC Beaver Dredgers B.V.
Overall length, approximately	97.50m
Length between perpendiculars	84.95m
Breadth	21.60m
Draught at maximum loading capacity	7.10m
Hopper capacity	5,600m ³
Inner diameter suction pipe	1,000mm
Maximum dredging depth	33m
Total installed power	6,776kW
Speed when loaded	12.8 knots
Accommodation	14 people

Persbericht

Trailing suction hopper dredger



Trailing suction hopper dredger

A dredger used to remove and transport soil from water beds by dragging a long suction tube (2) with a draghead (1) over the bed, loosening the soil in front of the suction head. The material is stored in the hopper (3), which is then discharged through the bottom doors (4), pumped through a floating pipeline, or 'rainbowed' (i.e. discharged through the jet nozzle (5) to a reclamation area.

Specific activities in this field include the construction or deepening of harbours and waterways. The main advantages of this type of vessel are its relative immunity to weather and sea conditions and the ability to transport material over long distances. Furthermore, it can operate independently with hardly any interference to other shipping traffic. A hopper dredger with a hopper capacity of 17,000m³ or more is called a "jumbo" hopper dredger.