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ABS Advances the use of LNG as Fuel with Approval of Novel Bulker Design

ABS issues Approval in Principle for LNG-fueled bulk carrier design concept.

(Houston) ABS, a leading provider of classification and technical services to the marine and offshore industries, has granted Approval in Principle (AIP) for the Seatransporter Dual Fuel (STDF), a bulk carrier conceptual design with dual–fuel propulsion developed by Algoship Designers Ltd.

"Designs that incorporate technical innovations that advance the use of LNG as fuel will play an increasingly important role, and ABS is working with the industry to enable this critical technological advancement," says ABS Chairman, President and CEO Christopher J. Wiernicki. "We are proud to issue this AIP for a design concept that promotes the use of LNG as fuel in the bulk carrier sector."

As the marine industry continues to adjust to comply with the more stringent environmental requirements, the use of LNG as fuel will continue to be adopted in more subsectors in the marine industry. Developed to help meet the current and upcoming emission requirements, the STDF can be used in Emission Control Areas (ECAs) and Sulphur Emission Control Areas (SECAs) without additional retrofits.

To demonstrate the efficiency of the design, Algoship worked with CleanShips LLC to develop a version of the design that would meet specific operational requirements without compromising cargo carrying capacity. The 38,000 DWT version is equipped with a 2,400 m^3 LNG fuel containment system that could allow for approximately 100 days endurance. The design has the capability to accommodate multiple engine types as well as Type-C or membrane containment systems. Algoship determined that the design can easily be scaled up to Panamax, Ultramax and Kamsarmax sized carriers and that the dual fuel technology is applicable to other vessel types.

"ABS contributed to this effort as a trusted advisor, engaged early on in the process to apply its rigorous engineering and safety standards and verify the feasibility of the design," said Algoship Designers Ltd

President Anthony Prince. “By working with ABS through its AIP process, we’ve been able to demonstrate that the Seatransporter was developed with a focus on safety and reliability and will be able to satisfy flag and port state requirements.”

Recognizing the changing landscape and increased industry focus on gas, ABS launched its Global Gas Solutions team in 2013 to support industry in developing gas-related projects. A pioneer in classification for the safe transport and handling of gas, ABS classed the world’s first LPG carrier conversion, the first LNG carrier conversion, the *Methane Pioneer*, in 1959, as well as the first newbuild LNG carrier, *Methane Princess*, in 1964, and has extensive experience with the full scope of gas-related assets, including many of the most advanced gas carriers in service. ABS is the industry leader in classification of liquefied gas carriers and maintains the largest global orderbook for the classification of LNG-fueled vessels.

About ABS

Founded in 1862, ABS is a leading international classification society devoted to promoting the security of life and property and preserving the natural environment through the development and verification of standards for the design, construction and operational maintenance of marine and offshore assets.