

Mariehamn, December 22, 2010

VIKING LINE ORDERS NEW VESSEL

The shipbuilding contract between Viking Line Abp and STX Finland Oy went into effect today, December 22. This occurred after the two parties had reached agreement on the contractual prerequisites. One of these prerequisites concerned the Finnish government environmental grant that the Ministry of Transport and Communications approved yesterday. Disbursement of this grant presupposes that the European Commission will approve the grant programme and Viking Line's grant application. The two parties are thus fulfilling their letter of intent signed on October 25, 2010. Viking Line's investment will total about EUR 240 M. The agreement includes an option for an additional vessel.

The vessel will be built at the STX shipyard in Turku, Finland for service on the Turku – Åland Islands (Finland) – Stockholm (Sweden) route, with delivery expected early in 2013. Its length will be about 214 metres, gross tonnage about 57,000 and ice class 1 A Super. The vessel is being planned for 2,800 passengers and will have a crew of 200 people. The number of passenger cabins on this innovative, modern vessel will be 880. The length of its cargo lanes will be 1,275 metres, and 500 metres will be reserved for passenger cars on a separate car deck. There will also be extra space for cars on "shelves" that can be lowered in place.

The vessel represents a new generation of passenger ferries, and the planning process has included devoting great attention to environmentally friendly solutions, a high level of passenger comfort and new passenger experiences. Viking Line hopes that the investment will enable it to continue offering its passengers an enjoyable travel experience.

"We are very grateful for the support this project has received from many quarters and are especially pleased that in this way, before Christmas, we can help generate several thousand jobs in the Turku region," says Mikael Backman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Viking Line. The newbuilding will bring about 2,600 man-years of work to the shipyard.

Viking Line Abp

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Viking Line is a public limited company and the market leading brand in passenger traffic on the northern Baltic Sea, with a mission to provide large-scale, affordable, safe passenger and cargo carrier services including first-class recreation, good food and attractive shopping. Its shares have been listed on the NASDAQ OMX Nordic Exchange Helsinki since 1995. Viking Line serves Finland, Sweden and the Baltic countries with seven vessels. During fiscal 2008/2009 sales were about EUR 471 M. The number of passengers totalled 6.4 million. The average number of employees was 3,091.

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