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Investment in attractive growth segment: Hapag-Lloyd orders 5,750 state-of-the-art reefers

Delivery beginning in October 2016 / New order strengthens market position in the transport of temperature-sensitive goods / Tests with new refrigeration equipment and natural refrigerants

Hapag-Lloyd will also be investing in its container fleet this year: The liner shipping company has ordered a total of 5,750 refrigerated containers (reefers) of the latest generation – including 5,000 x 40-foot and 750 x 20-foot units. In addition, 1,000 of the new containers are equipped with “controlled atmosphere” technology, which allows various types of fruits and vegetables to be transported for longer periods of time while maintaining a consistent quality.

In addition to temperature-sensitive goods – such as fruits, vegetables, meat and fish – Hapag-Lloyd also transports other high-value products in reefer containers, such as pharmaceuticals. Plans call for the new refrigerated containers to be delivered beginning already in October and to be gradually integrated into the existing container fleet.

The new order accompanies the delivery of five new 10,500 TEU vessels, which Hapag-Lloyd ordered last April. The new containerships of the “Valparaíso Express” class are currently being built in South Korea and are scheduled to incrementally go to sea between South America and Europe beginning in late 2016. Each of these ships boasts an especially high reefer capacity of more than 2,100 units.

“Hapag-Lloyd is one of the world’s biggest suppliers in the reefer segment and numbers among the market leaders in South America,” says Anthony J. Firmin, Chief Operating Officer at Hapag-Lloyd. "With the newly ordered reefers, we will be able to continue offering state-of-the-art equipment to our customers while at the same time optimizing the efficiency of our container fleet. In this way, we are especially optimally equipped for the South America traffic, which is important in the reefer business.”

Hapag-Lloyd already has one of the largest and most modern reefer fleets in the world. Together with the cooling-technology specialist Carrier Transicold, the liner shipping company is currently testing a new generation of refrigeration equipment. These use the eco-friendly natural refrigerant carbon dioxide and, in the long run, could replace the chemical refrigerants now standard in the sector.

About Hapag-Lloyd

With a fleet of 170 modern container ships and a total transport capacity of 952,000 TEU, Hapag-Lloyd is one of the world's leading liner shipping companies. The Company has around 9,300 employees at 365 sites in 120 countries. Hapag-Lloyd has a container capacity of 1.5 million TEU – including one of the largest and most modern fleets of reefer containers. A total of 128 liner services worldwide ensure fast, reliable connections between all the continents. Hapag-Lloyd is one of the leading operators in the Transatlantic, Latin America and Intra-America trades.