

Rickmers Holding AG

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Rickmers Group steps up its bulk carrier management
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Hamburg, 24 March 2015. Rickmers Shipmanagement GmbH & Cie. KG, Hamburg, a fully consolidated subsidiary of Rickmers Group, has been awarded with the technical shipmanagement, including the provision of crew, for a fleet of seven supramax bulk carriers. The vessels concerned are operated in world-wide tramp services, that is without a fixed schedule. They will be taken over by Rickmers Shipmanagement and gradually join the managed fleet starting from April 1, 2015. At the same time Rickmers Shipmanagement GmbH & Cie. KG takes over the responsibility for the vessels with regards to the International Safety Management (ISM) and International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Codes. With these bulk carriers, Rickmers Group enhances its capacity as third party manager and increases the number of non-box ships, contributing to the diversification of the managed fleet. also the competence as ship manager of non-container vessels. The step further emphasizes the Group's return into the bulk business. Just recently Rickmers' 50% joint venture Harper Petersen took over the exclusive chartering for 21 bulk carriers, thereby positioning itself as a player in bulk business once again. Holger Strack, in charge of the business segment Maritime Assets, expressed his satisfaction and welcomed the recent development: "This success rewards exceptional commitment on the side of Rickmers. We constantly and flexibly supported the customer along the whole decision making process, cooperating and providing information at any time. I am very pleased to add these bulk carriers to our fleet." Ignace Van Meenen, CEO Rickmers Group, pointed out: "We now manage box ships as well as multipurpose vessels, car carriers and bulk carriers. After Harper Petersen just recently returned to the chartering, sales and purchase of bulkers, we as Rickmers Group are now involved in both commercial and technical management for those ships, thereby expanding our area of business and strengthening our market position." About Rickmers Group With its Head Offices in Hamburg and Singapore, the Rickmers Group is an international service provider for the shipping industry as well as for ship-owners and shipping lines. Its international structure comprises over 20 offices in eleven countries and more than 50 agents worldwide. The Rickmers Group's business activities are grouped into three segments: Maritime Assets, Maritime Services and the Rickmers-Linie. The Group employs about 2,750 people at sea and ashore and controls a fleet of more than 110 ships. In the Maritime Assets segment the Rickmers Group is active as Asset Manager for its own vessels and also for those of third parties. Rickmers initiates and coordinates shipping projects, organises financing and acquires, charters and sells ships. In the Maritime Services business segment the Rickmers Group provides ship management services for the Rickmers Group's own vessels as well as for those owned by third parties; these services comprise technical and operational management, crewing, newbuild supervision, consultancy and insurance-related services. In the Rickmers-Linie business segment the Rickmers Group operates as a leading shipping line for breakbulk, heavy lift and project cargo with 15 offices worldwide, and additionally offers individual voyages. Press enquiries: Kirchhoff Consult AG Sebastian Bucher T: +49 (0)40 60 91 86 18 F: +49 (0)40 60 91 86 60 E: sebastian.bucher@kirchhoff.de
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