

Rickmers Holding AG**WKN:** A1TNA3 **ISIN:** DE000A1TNA39 **Land:** Deutschland**Nachricht vom 07.05.2015 | 09:30****Masterbulk awards Rickmers with ship management of 16 bulk carriers**

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Hamburg, 7 May 2015 - Rickmers Group is pleased to announce the appointment of Rickmers Shipmanagement (Singapore) as Masterbulk Pte. Ltd.'s new primary third party ship manager. Rickmers will take over management of 16 open hatch gantry crane bulk carriers progressively between May and August 2015.

Rickmers Shipmanagement recently announced its intention to step up its bulk carrier management business. The Masterbulk appointment follows the recent addition of seven supramax bulk carriers and demonstrates the successful growth of the managed fleet. Masterbulk highlighted Rickmers' track record and commitment to quality service, crew training, and vessel maintenance had been the decisive factor in their appointment as ship manager.

Dr. Ignace Van Meenen, CEO of Rickmers Group, noted the deal's significance for the company: "By managing such advanced bulk carriers we have proven - again - our wide-ranging shipmanagement abilities. We stand-out because of our profound understanding of customer requirements, and this is greatly aided by the fact that we manage, amongst others, the multipurpose carriers of Rickmers-Linie in-house. Masterbulk will also benefit from the economies of scale of the combined Rickmers fleet - now numbering approximately 130 ships."

Nick Fisher, CEO of Masterbulk, commented: "Being part of the Rickmers managed fleet brings us considerable operational advantages and savings. We look forward to working with the Rickmers team over the coming years to build on the work we have already done on efficiency maximization and crewing diversity."

About Masterbulk Pte. Ltd.

Masterbulk was established in Singapore in July 1995 and owns a fleet of Open Hatch Gantry Crane Vessels for handling unitised cargoes. Specialising particularly in the forestry product segment, Masterbulk's vessels also handle a wide variety of products including steel, bulk, project cargoes, grains and fertilisers, petcoke and iron ore, containers, windmill blades, railcars and yachts.

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 2,330 people at sea and ashore and controls a fleet of approximately 130 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.

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