

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



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OCEANEX ANNOUNCES CONSTRUCTION OF THE LARGEST CANADIAN FLAG CON/RO SHIP

Representatives from Oceanex Inc., were in Flensburg, Germany last week for the cutting of first steel of what will become the largest Canadian flag container/roll on roll off (Con/Ro) ship. This twenty knot, ice-class vessel, to be named the ***Oceanex Connaigra***, is custom designed for world-wide trade and will be 210 meters in length with a deadweight carrying capacity of 19,500 metric tonnes.

According to Oceanex Executive Chairman, Captain Sid Hynes, “construction of this unique ship represents an investment of more than \$100 million, demonstrating Oceanex’s commitment to meeting the needs of our customers throughout Eastern Canada and particularly the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. The ***Oceanex Connaigra*** has been designed to meet the company’s anticipated growth for the next 30 years.”

Oceanex Connaigra is being built by Flensburger Schiffbau-Gesellschaft mbH & Co. KG of Germany, recognized for its high quality construction, for staying within budget and delivering on time. Peter Sierk, President and CEO for the Flensburger Shipyard states that “the vessel will be one of the most modern, innovative, environmentally friendly and adaptable ConRo ships in the world. Leading the industry, this eco friendly vessel will be equipped with a dry scrubber exhaust gas cleaning system for main engines and diesel generators and thus exceed the requirements of the proposed restrictive air emissions regulations. In fact, the vessel is classed by DNV as a ‘clean ship,’ which confirms a higher environmental standard, particularly with respect to air emissions.”

The roro weather deck of the ***Oceanex Connaigra*** is designed for a conventional lift-on/lift-off container ship operation and is able to accommodate all relevant sizes of containers, including the Oceanex high cube 53’ units – with a weather-deck load capacity of 11,000 metric tonnes of containers. Lifiable ramps provide access to all five roro decks which allow for the transportation of up to 95 tractor trailers and 500 automobiles. Notably, the ship is uniquely designed with a 40’ wide stern ramp to accommodate over dimensional loads that can weigh several hundred tonnes, which Hynes states is critically important to the construction and development projects

throughout Atlantic Canada. The addition of a side ramp and starboard side door promotes more efficient and faster loading and unloading of automobiles.

This state-of-the art vessel is equipped with leading edge technology, such as the latest generation engines using a common rail fuel management system to provide high efficiency and smokeless operations. With the extreme weather conditions of the North Atlantic, three passive anti-roll stability tanks and a gyro controlled active fin stabilizer system have been added to ensure cargo safety and crew comfort along with the highest quality European standard accommodation for the ship's crew.

Delivery of the **Oceanex Connaigra** to the Newfoundland service is expected in the fall of 2013 at which time it will join the current Oceanex fleet composed of the MV Cabot, the Oceanex Sanderling, and the Oceanex Avalon.

Oceanex Inc., a privately owned Short Sea Shipping company, is a leading player in the east coast transportation industry. Oceanex provides full inter-modal transportation services between Mexico, the United States, and mainland Canada to the island of Newfoundland. Oceanex further serves over land all points in Newfoundland from St. John's daily.

Flensburg Shipbuilders, founded in 1872 and the world's leading builders of RoRo ships have built an outstanding reputation for their work. The shipyard has delivered over 750 ships to date, concentrating on specialized vessels and tailor-made developments - not only RoRo and RoPax sectors, but also naval ships and offshore ships.

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