

New Hamburger Lloyd flagship classed by ClassNK

In 2008, the shipping company Hamburger Lloyd (RHL) ordered four 4,600-TEU "wide-beam" container ships from China's Shanghai Shipyard Co, Ltd. The first two state-of-the-art newbuilds, the *RHL Conscientia* and *RHL Concordia*, were delivered this year and bring the number of units in RHL's fleet to 14.

For the *RHL Concordia*, RHL has entered into new, forward-looking cooperation with the world's largest classification society, Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (ClassNK).

"We were able to establish close cooperation with ClassNK during the construction phase, and after taking delivery we switched the classification society for both ships from Germanischer Lloyd (GL) to ClassNK," said Michael Brandhoff, RHL's technical director.

Better costs and performance transparency

The order boom in recent years has posed greater challenges to the established classification societies during the construction and operational phases.

"Through diversification, Hamburger Lloyd aims to achieve better transparency – in terms of costs and performance – in



RHL Concordia in dry dock at Shanghai Shipyard Photo: Hamburger Lloyd

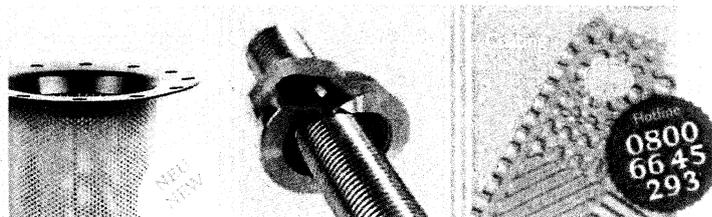
the area of classification as well, and a direct comparison is the only way to do it," remarked Hauke Pane, RHL's managing director. "We have absolute faith in our new Japanese partners and are looking forward to close cooperation with ClassNK for many years."

The shipping company's new flagship, the *RHL Concordia*, is the 14th vessel in its fleet. The newbuild is 259.80m long, 37.30m wide and has a deadweight of 57,500t at a draught of 12.50m. It can carry 1,856 TEU in the holds and 2,764 TEU in as many as seven layers on deck. The container capacity is 3,620 TEU at 14t and there are 600 connections for reefer containers. A MAN 8K80MEC engine rated at 36,560 kW powers the newbuild to a cruising speed of 23.2 knots.

Hamburger Lloyd was founded in 2007. Its core business involves the technical and operational management as well as chartering of a modern fleet that operates globally for exclusively well-known charterers. RHL is currently focusing on the container ship segment. ☼

Nippon Kaiji Kyokai at SMM Hall B2.EG / Stand 208

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