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Bernhard Schulte orders its first CO₂ tanker

Bernhard Schulte expands its fleet portfolio and announces today the order of its first CO₂ tanker. The newbuilding will be constructed at Dalian Shipbuilding Offshore (DSOC) and will feature innovative technologies significantly reducing its carbon footprint. It is planned for delivery in 2026. The newbuilding is committed to a long-term time charter agreement with Northern Lights and will support the development of the world's first cross-border CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure.

The newbuilding ordered now is the first ship of this type for the Bernhard Schulte fleet and the fourth CO₂ carrier for Northern Lights. The joint venture, owned by Shell, TotalEnergies and Equinor, has already ordered three vessels, two already under construction at DSOC and another ordered in September this year.

“Ordering this vessel is an exciting step in the expansion of Bernhard Schulte’s fleet portfolio in an innovative future tanker segment. We are looking forward to becoming part of Northern Lights industry leading project to provide CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure. We are furthermore delighted to have Dalian Shipbuilding Offshore as our selected partner in this endeavour. The Schulte Group has long-standing relationships with Chinese shipyards, which is a strong foundation for this outstanding project,” says Ian Beveridge, CEO of Bernhard Schulte.

All four ships are sister vessels with the same vessel design and have a cargo capacity of 7,500 m³. Custom-built for transportation of liquefied CO₂, these ships are the first of their kind and will safely transport CO₂ from Northern Lights’ customers across Northwest Europe to the CO₂ receiving terminal at Øygarden, Norway before permanent geological storage.

“This deal marks another major milestone for us. CCS is a safe and efficient way to handle emissions and it is critical to meet climate targets. We are excited to see Bernhard Schulte now entering the Liquid CO₂ business, as strong partnerships are required to succeed. We have strong belief in the tripart collaboration between Northern Lights JV, DSOC and Bernhard Schulte,” says Børre Jacobsen, Managing Director of Northern Lights.

Northern Lights is developing a ship-based CO₂ transport solution and has implemented innovative technologies in the ship design to reduce the CO₂ emissions from shipping. The primary fuel for the ships will be LNG. Combined with other proven technologies, such as wind-assisted rotor sail and air lubrication, the ships will have around 34% lower carbon footprint compared to conventional ships running on marine fuel.

“As the most experienced offshore yard in China, we are glad to form such first-ever cooperation relationship with Bernhard Schulte and jointly provide our services to contribute

Northern Lights CCS projects. DSOC is confident to deliver the vessel on time with highest quality and HSE standards. It is indeed a great honour to be part of this collaboration by providing our Liquefied CO₂ transportation solutions,” says Yingzhi Sun, President of DSOC.

Facts about the ship

- Capacity: 7,500 m³ liquid CO₂
- Two cylindrical cargo tanks
- Length: 130 meters
- Cargo transport conditions: maximum 19 bar(g) pressure and minimum -35°C temperature
- 34% lower carbon footprint than ships on conventional fuel
- LNG Dual Fuel, wind-assisted rotor sail and air lubrication

Images:

- Two of the four sister vessels are already under construction at Dalian Shipbuilding Offshore
- Signing of the newbuilding contract for Bernhard Schulte's first CO₂ ship; left: Mrs. Dongqing He, Representative Bernhard Schulte; right: Mr. Yingzhi Sun, President of DSOC

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About Bernhard Schulte

Bernhard Schulte is the ship owning business of the international, family-owned Schulte Group. Building on the group's 140 years of experience in the industry, Bernhard Schulte controls a modern and diversified fleet of 80 fully or partly owned vessels, including container and offshore vessels, bulk carriers, tankers and gas carriers. The Schulte Group engages in ship owning, ship management, maritime software solutions, maritime services and asset management. Through its global network of more than 30 offices in major shipping locations, the Schulte Group employs over 20,000 seafarers and 3,000 people on shore.

www.schultegroup.com/bs/

About Northern Lights

Northern Lights is developing the world's first cross-border CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure. Delivering CO₂ transport and storage as a service, Northern Lights enables mitigation of industrial emissions that cannot be avoided and accelerates the decarbonisation of European industry. Drawing on experience from over 25 years of CO₂ storage on the Norwegian Continental Shelf, Northern Lights are at the forefront of developing CCS technologies. The company will transport liquefied CO₂ from capture sites to an onshore receiving terminal in western Norway, before transporting it by pipeline for permanent storage in a reservoir 2,600 metres under the seabed. CCS is a necessary climate solution to decarbonise industry and reduce or remove industrial CO₂ emissions. On schedule to be ready to receive CO₂ in 2024, Northern Lights offers safe and reliable CO₂ transport and storage services to industrial emitters in Norway and across Europe. Northern Lights JV DA is a registered, incorporated General Partnership with Shared Liability (DA) owned by Equinor, TotalEnergies and Shell.

www.norlights.com

About DSOC

Dalian Shipbuilding Offshore Co., Ltd. (DSOC) is the most experienced and prominent EPC shipbuilding and offshore yard in China. With its registered location in Dalian, DSOC stepped into the global oil and gas industry in early 1970s and has become a well-established player in the market. Until now, over 100 offshore products have been delivered to the worldwide clients, including the LNG bunker vessel, liquefied gas carriers (VLEC), wind farm installation platform, and also oil and gas drilling and operation products, such as FPSO topside modules, semi-sub and jack-up drilling rigs. Now with the implementing of a series of CO₂ ships for Northern Lights, the CO₂ ships is becoming DSOC's main business.