Royal IHC to build world's largest cutter suction dredger for DEME

Royal IHC (IHC) has been awarded a contract for the design, construction and delivery of the 44,180kW self-propelled cutter suction dredger (CSD) SPARTACUS, for DEME in Belgium. The newly built CSD will be 164 metres long. The concept and basic design for this mega cutter was done in close cooperation with DEME, Vuyk Engineering Rotterdam (a 100% subsidiary of IHC) and IHC.

Several innovations and LNG-powered

The SPARTACUS will be the world's first LNG-powered (liquefied natural gas) CSD and follows the order for the first LNG-powered trailing suction hopper dredgers (TSHDs) MINERVA and SCHELDT RIVER, and 'LNG-ready' BONNY RIVER, that are currently under construction at IHC's shipyards.

The four main diesel engines can run on LNG, MDO and HFO, and the two auxiliary engines have dual-fuel technology. The application of LNG to power TSHDs has proven to be a very complex puzzle. In close cooperation with DEME, the two organisations have managed to fit all the pieces together. The SPARTACUS will benefit from this joint effort and forward-thinking and represents a new milestone in the industry.

This environmentally-friendly CSD will also have other innovations on board, such as a waste heat recovery system that converts heat from the exhaust gasses to electrical energy. The dredge control is arranged for a one-man operation. The vessel will have a heavy-duty cutter ladder and can reach a dredging depth of 45m.

Most complex cutter ever built

"We can state that this CSD is the largest and most complex that IHC has ever built," says IHC's CEO Dave Vander Heyde. *"The combination of power, size and innovations makes it a true challenge to build. We are proud and honoured that DEME has again placed their trust in us. We also want to thank them for giving us the opportunity to build the world's first LNG-powered cutter suction dredger. We are pleased to note that IHC's strategy, which focuses on developing and producing high added value equipment, and integrated vessels is starting to pay off. Being able to manage all the gigantic forces of this CSD with our high tech equipment and systems perfectly supports this."*

The SPARTACUS will also reinforce DEME's commitment to green initiatives. *"This cutter suction dredger is going to be an important benchmark for the industry and a huge step toward limiting the environmental impact of our vessels,"* says DEME's Head of Construction and Conversion Jan Gabriel.

PRESS RELEASE

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Profile Royal IHC

In an ever-changing political and economic landscape, Royal IHC enables its customers to execute complex projects from sea level to ocean floor in the most challenging of maritime environments.

We are a reliable supplier of innovative and efficient equipment, vessels and services for the offshore, dredging and wet mining markets. With a history steeped in Dutch shipbuilding since the mid-17th Century, we have in-depth knowledge and expertise of engineering and manufacturing high-performance integrated vessels and equipment, and providing sustainable services. From our head office in The Netherlands and with 2,700 employees working from sites and offices on a global basis, we are able to ensure a local presence and support on every continent.

Dredging operators, oil and gas corporations, offshore contractors, mining houses and government authorities all over the world benefit from IHC's high-quality solutions and services. With our commitment to technological innovation, in which sustainability and safety are key, we strive to continuously meet the specific needs of each customer in a rapidly evolving world. Royal IHC. The technology innovator. For more information on Royal IHC, visit www.royalihc.com

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