

For Immediate Release
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BC FERRIES ANNOUNCES STEEL CUT FOR THIRD NEW FERRY **Construction begins on the third LNG ferry**

VICTORIA – The first steel cut for BC Ferries’ third new intermediate class ferry (ICF) took place last week, bringing all three new ships closer to their delivery to B.C. waters. This is another significant step in the project to build three ferries capable of running as dual-fuel on either liquefied natural gas (LNG) or ultra-low sulphur diesel.

The three ships are being built at Remontowa Shipbuilding S.A. in Gdansk, Poland and the other two are progressing well, with the construction starts taking place earlier this year. The staggered start mimics the delivery dates, with the first ICF scheduled to arrive in August 2016, the second in October 2016 and the third in February 2017.

“The new ships will replace vessels that are at the end of their life cycle, and will be more fuel-efficient and cleaner burning, reducing our impact on the environment,” said Mike Corrigan, BC Ferries’ President & CEO. “We are eagerly anticipating the arrival of the new vessels and the construction start of the third ICF is an important milestone in bringing these ships one step closer to sailing in our fleet.”

BC Ferries use of LNG will result in the reduction of an estimated 9,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, the same as taking 1,900 passenger vehicles off the road annually, because natural gas is cleaner burning than traditional marine diesel fuel. The new ships will run on LNG as much as possible, almost completely eliminating SOx (Sulphur Oxides), reducing NOx (Nitrogen Oxides) to a fraction of what we see from diesel fuel and nearly eliminating particulate matter.

The first ICF will replace the 50-year old Queen of Burnaby on the Comox – Powell River route. The second ICF will replace the 51-year old Queen of Nanaimo, sailing on the Tsawwassen – Southern Gulf Islands route. The third ICF will be used to augment peak and shoulder season service on the Southern Gulf Islands route, and provide refit relief around the fleet.

Under contract to the Province of British Columbia, BC Ferries is the service provider responsible for the delivery of safe, efficient and dependable ferry service along coastal British Columbia.

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The first steel cut for BC Ferries' third new ferry took place in Poland on July 1. From left: Krzysztof Gerowski, Remontowa Project Manager, Dan Riis, BC Ferries Project Manager, Andrzej Wojtkiewicz, Remontowa CEO, Jan Paszkowski, Remontowa Director of Business Development.

SPECIFICATIONS OF THE NEW INTERMEDIATE CLASS FERRIES

- The new intermediate class vessels will measure approximately 107 metres and will have the capacity to carry 145 vehicles and up to 600 passengers and crew.
- The ships will have roll on/roll off vehicle decks, capable of loading/unloading at the designated terminal berths.
- The vessels will be constructed for a service life of approximately 40 years.
- The ships will have a contract service speed of 15.5 knots and accelerate time to 12 knots in 125 seconds.

- The three vessels will be designed to operate as dual-fuel capable, operating on either Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) or Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel Oil (ULSD).
- LNG is a “greener” and much cleaner fuel source with very favourable environmental gains compared to diesel fuel. LNG adoption cuts carbon emissions, almost completely eliminates SOx (Sulphur Oxides), reduces NOx (Nitrogen Oxides) to a fraction of what we see from marine diesel fuel and nearly eliminates particulate matter.
- LNG can be delivered to our ferries by truck in the same manner that we have done with diesel fuel for over 50 years.