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STAR CRUISES ANNOUNCES FLEET DEPLOYMENT

Star Cruises, "*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia*", is pleased to announce that the 75,000 gross tons **SuperStar Leo** will be positioned in Singapore in October 1998 and replace the 40,000 gross tons **Star Aquarius** which will be repositioned to Port Klang (Kuala Lumpur) from October, 1998 to March, 1999 and to Keelung (Taipei) from March 1999 onwards.

SuperStar Leo will operate in the Straits of Malacca/Andaman Sea from October 1998 to March 1999 with 3-night cruises departing every Sunday to Phuket in Thailand and Langkawi Island in Malaysia and 2-night cruises departing every Wednesday to Malacca and Port Klang (Kuala Lumpur) in Malaysia.

SuperStar Leo will operate in the South China Sea from April to September 1999, with 3-night cruises departing every Sunday to Songkhla (Hatyai) in Thailand and Pulau Perhentian in Malaysia and 2-night cruises departing every Wednesday to Kuantan and Kijal Awana Resort in Malaysia.

"With the world-class **SuperStar Leo**, Star Cruises will target the North Asian fly-cruise markets of Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, China and Australia/ New Zealand on her 2-night, 3-night or a back-to-back 5-night cruises," says Mr Colin Au, Star Cruises' President and Chief Executive.

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"The **SuperStar Leo's** 5-night cruises will replace the previous **SuperStar Gemini's** 5-night cruises as it was announced that **SuperStar Gemini's** itinerary will be changed from a 5-night to a 7-night voyage effective November 1998, " Mr Au added.

"Cruise passengers can combine cruises on **SuperStar Gemini** and **SuperStar Leo** and create interesting itineraries of 10 and 12-nights as both ships call at Singapore on Sundays. Cruise passengers can disembark from **SuperStar Gemini** and continue their voyage on the **SuperStar Leo**," says Mr Cheong Tack Hoong, Executive Vice-President of Star Cruises.

Star Cruises is the only cruise line that can offer year round 2, 3, 5, 7, 10 and 12 nights cruise itineraries with up to 11 ports of call in the Straits of Malacca, Andaman Sea and South China Sea on two modern world-class ships - the **SuperStar Leo** built in 1998 and the **SuperStar Gemini** built in 1992.

"We want to thank the Singapore Cruise Centre, Singapore Tourism Board and other government authorities in extending the cruise berths so that the first megaship, **SuperStar Leo** can be home-port in Singapore." says Mr Au. "The improvements to the public areas of Singapore Cruise Centre makes it one of the best cruise centres in the world and complements Star Cruises' efforts to use the two modern world class vessels, **SuperStar Leo** and **SuperStar Gemini** in order to assist Singapore to become the premier fly/cruise hub in Asia." he added.

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The **MegaStar Asia** (ex "Europa", rated as the best ship in the world by the 1997 Berlitz Guide) will be positioned in Singapore when delivered in June 1999. Her itinerary will be announced later this year.

The second newbuilding, the 75,000 tons **SuperStar Virgo** will replace the **SuperStar Leo** in Singapore in October 1999. Although **SuperStar Virgo** is a sister ship of **SuperStar Leo**, the theme and decoration are completely different which means that there will be continued interest in **SuperStar Virgo** in Singapore by repeat cruisers. The deployment of **SuperStar Leo** for October 1999 onwards will be announced later this year.

Star Cruises is "*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia*" and one of the five largest cruise lines in the world. By 2002, Star Cruises will have a fleet of 10 vessels with a total lower berth capacity of about 12,000 with annual growth of 25% per year for the corresponding period. Star Cruises has also one of the youngest cruise fleet in the world with ships based throughout Asia and offices in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and UK.

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