

## **SUPERSTAR LEO UNDERGOES SEA TRIALS**

14 August, 1998 - On August 9, 1998, Star Cruises' latest addition to its fleet, the 268m long and 32.2m wide 13-Deck SuperStar Leo set sail from the German shipyard, Meyer Werft on the first leg of her historic journey to Asia amidst applause from the approximate 200,000 spectators who lined the river en route on Sunday afternoon. All had come to Papenburg specifically to watch Asia's first magnificent cruise ship navigate her way across the German countryside to the sea.

SuperStar Leo is presently in the port of Eemshaven (Netherlands), undergoing sea trials while her crew prepares the ship to receive her first guests for her European showcases in late September before heading on her 3 week journey to Singapore where she will be based for the year.

Over the next few weeks, technicians and engineers from Star Cruises and Meyer Werft will test the manoeuvrability, sailing ability and safety aspects of the latest, most modern megaship to enter the cruise industry. SuperStar Leo will undergo a series of sea trials, including a crash stop from a full speed of 25 knots ( about 60 km per hour) to a full stop within six lengths of the ship - an incredible feat considering that the length of this megaship is longer than even the tallest hotel in the World - the Westin Stamford.

SuperStar Leo will also complete a full turn within four lengths of the ship while sailing at full speed - testing her high level of manoeuvrability. These sea trials are a vital aspect of testing the state-of-the-art navigation system installed on board SuperStar Leo as she will be operating along the busiest waterways of the

world, namely the Straits of Malacca and a high safety standard is essential on all Star Cruisesí ships.

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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