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**PRESS RELEASE**

**21 May, 1999**

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**STAR CRUISES REPORTS 15% MORE BOOKINGS TODAY  
COMPARED TO SAME DAY LAST WEEK**

Star Cruises announces that bookings on all its fleet vessels increased 15% today as compared to the same day last week, despite extensive news coverage of the sinking of Sun Vista.

“Initially, we were concerned about a drop in passenger bookings, but we are pleasantly surprised that most consumers and agents are aware that Star Cruises has a modern fleet and has implemented extensive safety features such as “Hi-Fog” sprinklers even in the engine rooms which are not required by IMO (International Maritime Organisation) regulation till 2005,” says Colin Au, President & Chief Executive of Star Cruises.

“In addition, there is high consumer and agent awareness of an extensive Star Cruise onshore team to ensure safety standards. Being the first cruise company to own its own US\$5 million bridge simulator and having all Scandinavian deck, engine and marine officers led by the Executive Vice President for Marine Operations, Mr Nils Nordh (formerly Senior Vice President for Marine Operations in Royal Caribbean International) helped tremendously in the perception that Star Cruises has very high safety standards,” he added.

Star Cruises has a modern fleet of 10 vessels with a weighted average age of 6 years. Four of them are newbuildings with the most advanced safety features and built by the leading West German shipyard for cruise vessels, Meyer Werft.

“We have adopted the policy of building the youngest fleet in the world with the most advanced navigational, engine and safety standards,” says Dato K T Lim, Chairman of Star Cruises. “With more than US\$2 billion invested in new cruise ships and more new megaships to be ordered, we have to ensure the highest safety standards. Safety for cruise passengers is paramount and also the cornerstone of the Star Cruises brand. There is absolutely no compromise as far as safety is concerned,” he added.

Star Cruises is profitable with record profits for the first quarter of 1999 and has about US\$1 billion in shareholders funds. Earnings performances are comparable to other major cruise lines. With about 1,000 shoreside personnel, Star Cruises has a comparable shoreside organisation with the 3 major cruise lines.

With respect to ship design, in particular navigation and safety, SuperStar Leo has the best features among cruise ships in the world. There are about 800 surveillance cameras onboard SuperStar Leo and these monitor the Captain’s Bridge and engine rooms in addition to public areas to ensure safety and security. No other cruise ship in the world has such an extensive surveillance camera coverage. Any outbreak of fires can be monitored on a remote basis and fire-fighters directed accordingly.

Star Cruises won 3 out of 8 design awards from the leading European magazine, “Cruise & Ferry Info” last week at London Seatrade with no other cruise ships built last year winning more than one award.

Star Cruises is one of the five largest cruise lines in the world. By 2002, Star Cruises will have a fleet of 10 vessels with lower berth capacity of about 12,000 with annual growth of 25% per year for the corresponding period.

Star Cruises, "*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*" has one of the youngest cruise fleets in the world with ships based throughout Asia with Singapore, Port Klang, Phuket, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Taipei and Osaka/Kobe as ports of embarkation by early 2000.

Star Cruises has offices in Australia (Sydney, Melbourne, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand), Asia ( China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand), Europe (Austria, Germany, Sweden and United Kingdom) and the United States of America.

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