



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

June 23rd, 2000
EMBARGO

KEEL-LAYING CEREMONY OF SUPERSTAR LIBRA

Star Cruises, “*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*”, is pleased to announce the keel-laying ceremony of **SuperStar Libra** at the Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg, Germany today.

The keel-laying ceremony saw the lowering of the first block of steel of **SuperStar Libra** on a penny laid by Mr. Colin Veitch, President and Chief Executive of NCL. The historic event was witnessed by Dato KT Lim, Chairman of Star Cruises, Mr. Colin Au, President and Chief Executive of Star Cruises, Mr. Bernard Meyer, Managing Partner of Meyer Werft, dignitaries, shipping and travel trade professionals and members of the local and international media.

Guests were then ushered to the Exhibition Centre where they visited and viewed the artist impressions and mock-up cabins of the **SuperStar Libra**.

“**SuperStar Libra** is the first of the two world-class *Libra-class* vessels scheduled for delivery in 2001 and 2002 respectively. Star Cruises is very pleased that our previous newbuilds – the world-class megaships – **SuperStar Leo** and **SuperStar Virgo** - have generated tremendous consumer interest and following and have been well-received by both first-time and experienced cruisers since their arrival in Asia,” said Dato KT Lim, Chairman of Star Cruises.

“The successful partnership with Meyer Werft in constructing world-class cruise ships is attributable to the tremendous research and development that has gone into each newbuild to date,” said Mr. Colin Au, President and Chief Executive of Star Cruises.

“This is evident in the numerous design awards won by **SuperStar Leo** upon her completion and introduction in 1998,” added Mr. Au.

“Star Cruises looks forward to the delivery of **SuperStar Libra** in 2001, which is of maximum Panamax dimensions, and will usher in a new era of cruising wherever she is based. She is larger and even more luxurious than the existing *Leo-class* vessels in our fleet,” Mr. Au added further.

MORE ON SUPERSTAR LIBRA

At 91,000 grt, **SuperStar Libra** measures 293m in length and 32.2m in width with 1,150 cabins of which 45% are cabins with balconies. The 15-deck and 3,600 passenger **SuperStar Libra** offers luxurious and well-appointed accommodation with two penthouse suites, ambient world-class food and beverage outlets with various themes serving international and Asian cuisine, including an art nouveau wine cellar, numerous bars, lounges and exciting entertainment and recreation facilities.

MORE ON STAR CRUISES

Following the acquisition of NCL Holdings this year, Star Cruises, “*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*”, has a combined fleet of 20 ships and over 21,000 lower berths. By 2004, with the five ships currently on order, Star Cruises with NCL will have 25 vessels with about 35,000 lower berths.

Star Cruises also has one of the youngest and most modern cruise fleets in the world with the highest safety standards. Star Cruises is the only cruise line to own a US\$5 million world-class ship simulator in its operational headquarters in Malaysia and together with the Danish Maritime Institute, trains all Star Cruises’ officers in addition to a further 500 officers for Maersk Sealand and other shipping lines each year. Star Cruises is the winner of the Third Annual “Salute to Youth and Training 2000” awarded by Lloyd’s List and International Maritime Industry in London in March, 2000.

Presently, Star Cruises' 12 ships are based throughout Asia-Pacific and Middle East with Singapore, Port Klang (Malaysia), Phuket, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Taipei, Kobe, Fukuoka, Pusan and Dubai as ports of embarkation. Star Cruises' award-winning fleet has the best services afloat with the highest crew-to-passenger ratio reflecting the high standards of the hospitality industry in Asia-Pacific.

Star Cruises has offices in Asia (China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand); Australia (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth), Europe (Germany, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom) and the United States of America. With a number of branches in some countries such as China, India and Australia, Star Cruises is represented in 25 locations worldwide.

The NCL group operates a fleet of eight ships under two brands. **Norwegian Cruise Line**, with six ships, offers mainstream cruises in the Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Bermuda, and the Exotics. **Orient Line**, with two ships, offers destination-oriented cruises in Europe in the summer months and worldwide, as far as Antarctica, in the fall-through-spring. Both NCL and Orient Lines market primarily in North America but also extensively in the UK, Europe, South America, and Asia.

Star Cruises' completely new web-site is at www.starcruises.com which provides more information on the cruise line and the itineraries.

- end -

For editorial please contact:

MALAYSIA

JANE POH
Vice President, Corporate Communications
Port Klang, Malaysia

Tel : 603-309 2526
Fax : 603- 301 1479
Email : sjpoh@starcruises.com.my