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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

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**INTERNATIONAL**

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**STAR CRUISES ANNOUNCES DEPLOYMENT PLANS FOR  
STAR AQUARIUS, SUPERSTAR ARIES AND NORWEGIAN STAR**

Star Cruises, "The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific" is pleased to announce a series of ship deployments for **Star Aquarius**, **SuperStar Aries** and **Norwegian Star** involving the Asian homeports of Laem Chabang (Thailand), Fukuoka (Japan) and Keelung (Taiwan).

The **SuperStar Aries** will be repositioned in Fukuoka, Japan following the redeployment of the 40,000-grt **Star Aquarius** to Bangkok, Thailand. **Star Aquarius** left Keelung on her relocation voyage on **October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2000** and arrived at Laem Chabang, Bangkok on **October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000** where she will be showcased on **October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2000** at the Laem Chabang Port to the Thai media, travel agents and travel trade professionals.

For the new cruise season between **October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2000** and **March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2001**, **Star Aquarius** will be offering **4-Day/3-Night Ko Samui/Trat Island Cruises**, **3-Day/2-Night Ko Chang Cruises** and **3-Day/2-Night Phu Quoc Cruises** to destinations in Ko Samui, Trat Islands (Ko Kut), Ko Chang and Phu Quoc from her homeport in Laem Chabang.

For the record, **Star Aquarius** is a much larger ship than her predecessor **SuperStar Aries** and given her larger maximum passenger capacity and added business and meeting facilities, she will be able to cater to the MICE (meeting, incentive, convention and exhibition) market in Thailand.

**SuperStar Aries** which has been homeported in Laem Chabang since October 1999 will sail to Fukuoka on **October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2000**. **SuperStar Aries** is expected to arrive in Fukuoka on **October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2000** and will be showcased to travel agents and members of

the media in Fukuoka between **October 29<sup>th</sup>** and **31<sup>st</sup>, 2000** before commencing her **Sea of Japan Cruises** from her new homeport on **October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2000**. In conjunction with the much-anticipated arrival of **SuperStar Ariès**, there will be a series of five inaugural cruises on **October 31<sup>st</sup>, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 10** and **14<sup>th</sup>, 2000**.

For her new cruise season between **October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2000** and **April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2001**, **SuperStar Ariès** will be offering **5-Day/4-Night** and **4-Day/3-Night Sea of Japan Cruises** to islands and destinations in Cheju Island, Nagasaki and Pusan from Fukuoka.

The **Norwegian Star**, which was recently chartered by Sports Illustrated during the Sydney Olympics is scheduled to be homeported in **Keelung, Taiwan** to replace **Star Aquarius** from late **November 2000**. **Norwegian Star** is presently dry-docked in Singapore prior to her homeporting in Keelung.

For her new cruise season, **Norwegian Star** will be offering **4-Day/3-Night** cruises with an overnight stopover at Naha, Japan. The stopover is introduced to enable cruisers to experience the nightlife of Naha. Avid golfers will also have the opportunity to play golf on any of the three golf courses offered in the shore excursion programmes lined up.

“The series of deployment is part of Star Cruises’ ship deployment strategy to allow cruisers and followers of Star Cruises’ ships to experience the different ships operated by Star Cruises,” said Dato’ KT Lim, Chairman of Star Cruises.

“We are confident that the ship deployment strategy will go down well with the people of Thailand, Japan and Taiwan, given the warm hospitality that Star Cruises’ ships have always received to date,” added Mr. Chong Chee Tut, Chief Operating Officer of Star Cruises.

### **MORE ON STAR AQUARIUS**

**Star Aquarius** measures 40,000 gross tonnes, 176m in length and 29m in width. She has 718 cabins with a lower berth capacity for approximately 1,500 passengers and a crew of 750. **Star Aquarius’** facilities include world-class food and beverage outlets serving a variety of Thai, Chinese, Italian and Japanese cuisine, entertainment outlets

offering karaoke, cabaret performances and novelty shows, mahjong, card games and movies. Sports and recreation facilities include a swimming pool, jogging track, sun deck and a health club replete with fully equipped gymnasium, massage, sauna, spa pools and solarium.

### **MORE ON SUPERSTAR ARIES**

Formerly the MS Europa, **SuperStar Aries** was rated “The Best Cruise Ship in the World” in 1997 by the authoritative Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships. At 37,000-grt, 200m in length and 28.5m in width, **SuperStar Aries** has 339 cabins with a lower berth capacity for approximately 700 passengers. She has luxurious interior, first-class recreation facilities, piano and show lounges, elegant food and beverage outlets, having undergone a US\$20 million refit and refurbishment exercise. She will be the largest cruise ship based in Japan.

### **MORE ON NORWEGIAN STAR**

At 28,000-grt, 205m in length and 25.2m in width, **Norwegian Star** has 400 cabins with a lower berth capacity for approximately 800 passengers. Her expansive decks, elegant lounges, intimate bars and spacious cabins have earned her an impressive 4-star rating from the Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships in 1999. **Norwegian Star** offers a wide variety of dining, entertainment and recreation options including facilities for both adults and children.

For the record, **Norwegian Star** has been operating under Norwegian Capricorn Line, a member of the Norwegian Cruise Line fleet, and was based in Australia since December 1998 offering exotic cruises to the South Pacific.

### **MORE ON STAR CRUISES**

Following the acquisition of NCL Holdings this year, Star Cruises “*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*” is now the fourth largest cruise line in the world operating a combined fleet of 20 ships with over 20,000 lower berths. By end 2002, with the three ships currently on order, Star Cruises with NCL will have about 28,000 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' 11 ships are based throughout Asia-Pacific with Singapore, Port Klang (Malaysia), Phuket, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Taipei, Kobe, Fukuoka and Pusan 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, 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 nine ships under two brands. **Norwegian Cruise Line**, with seven ships, offers mainstream cruises in the Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Bermuda, and the Exotics. **Orient Lines**, 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' web-site is at [www.starcruiises.com](http://www.starcruiises.com) which provides more information on the cruise line and the itineraries.

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