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

**31 May 2001**  
**INTERNATIONAL**

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**STAR CRUISES SHIP SIMULATOR:**  
**RENEWS AGREEMENT WITH DANISH MARITIME INSTITUTE**  
**HOSTS AUSTRALIAN PILOTS FOR COMPETENCY AUDIT**

Star Cruises, "The First Global Cruise Line" is pleased to announce the renewal of the joint-venture cooperation between Star Cruises Ship Simulator ("SCSS") and the world-renowned Danish Maritime Institute ("DMI") recently.

In the new agreement reached between the two parties, DMI will continue to provide instructor assistance and courseware. Services provided by DMI in the new agreement will include design, tank and wind tunnel tests, and onboard simulators. The new agreement is effective 1 July 2001.

"Star Cruises is pleased to continue its working relationship with the DMI. We have been working together since 1996 and to date have managed to establish SCSS as one of the leading training centres for officers in the world. Since its inception, SCSS has been steadily attracting leading companies in the maritime industry as well as regional ports in the region," said Star Cruises' Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Chong Chee Tut.

"Safety is a top priority and the SCSS has been set up to train Star Cruises' own captains and officers and now even Norwegian Cruise Line's officers. The SCSS started receiving officers from other companies and ports following the availability of the facility during non-peak periods since 1999."

“Companies such as AP Moeller (Maersk), NOL, Hyundai, UNOCAL and the port authorities of Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, China, Taiwan and Vietnam have sent their pilots for training at the SCSS,” added Mr. Chong.

### **PILOTS FROM AUSTRALIA MARINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION (“AMPA”)**

In another development, SCSS recently hosted a group of six Australian Pilots from the AMPA, including Capt. Steve Pelecanos who is a Vice President of the International Maritime Pilot Association (IMPA).

This competency audit is breaking new ground in the training of maritime pilots. The visit is a precursor to the other competency audits set to take place at the SCSS in the near term. The competency audit for these Australian Pilots – which is a milestone for SCSS - includes video analysis of their performance utilising the cutting-edge facilities available at the SCSS as well as a peer review. The competency audit conducted during the four-day visit is modelled on the aviation industry’s training standards and procedures

“The competency audit is the third and final stage of the training programme developed by AMPA for its pilots. The pilots who hail from the ports of Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Newcastle and Fremantle had earlier completed two phases of the training programme consisting of a Human Factors-based Bridge Resource Management Programme and the Advanced Marine Pilots course, the latter of which integrates human factors and skills training,” said Mr. Pelecanos.

“SCSS was chosen for the competency audit due to its state-of-the-art fully integrated simulator facilities which include audio-video playback, debriefing room and an archive of over 200 simulations of various vessels such as tankers, containers, passenger ships, bulk carriers, frigates, supply vessels and tug boats.”

“We are pleased to have been able to work with SCSS and also Star Cruises’ Mr. Hans Hederstrom - one of the industry’s foremost simulator trainers - on this competency audit which is the first of its kind ever undertaken in the maritime industry. In fact our working relationship dates back almost six years,” added Mr. Pelecanos.

“We commend the efforts made by the Australian Pilots who are presently embarking on an advanced training programme that will make them among the best-trained pilots in the world. Star Cruises is indeed pleased that the SCSS is able to provide the necessary facilities and human resources that can facilitate the realisation of this vision,” said Mr. Nils Nordh, Star Cruises’ Executive Vice President of Marine Operations.

“We also look forward to receiving other Australian Pilots in the future for their competency audits. They will certainly benefit from the state-of-the-art facilities at the SCSS and the flexible advanced training programmes available here,” added Mr. Nordh.

### **MORE ON THE STAR CRUISES SHIP SIMULATOR**

The Star Cruises Ship Simulator Centre (SCSS) is located within the Star Cruises Terminal, Port Klang complex. Completed in 1998 at a cost of US\$5 million, the SCSS is the only one of its kind in the world owned by a shipping company. The operation of the simulator is a joint-business agreement with the Danish Maritime Institute.

The SCSS is able to simulate the environments of the various ports of call and climactic conditions. Combining audio and video effects, the simulator provides virtual-realistic scenarios of actual port scenes in Port Klang, Straits of Malacca, Langkawi, Kuantan, Kemaman, Singapore, Hong Kong, Xiamen, Phuket, Keelung, Saigon River and Ishigaki and many more. The training centre also conducts training programmes for officers from other shipping companies.

### **MORE ON STAR CRUISES**

Star Cruises is the fourth largest cruise line in the world operating a combined fleet of 17 ships with over 20,000 lower berths, with cruises to destinations and islands in Asia-Pacific, North and South America, Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Mediterranean, Bermuda and Antarctica. By end 2002, with the three ships currently on order, Star Cruises with Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) will have about 28,000 lower berths. Star Cruises is represented in more than 20 locations world-wide with offices in Australia, China, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

For more information on Star Cruises and NCL, please visit [www.starcruiises.com](http://www.starcruiises.com) and [www.ncl.com](http://www.ncl.com)

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*From left: Capt. Steve Pelecanos, Vice President of IMPA, Star Cruises' Capt. Gustaf Gronberg, Vice President of Nautical and Mr. Hans Hederstrom in a group picture with the Australian Pilots.*



*The Star Cruises Ship Simulator*