



**PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release**

**10th June 2003
INTERNATIONAL**

**STAR CRUISES COMMENDED FOR GOOD CO-OPERATION WITH AUSTRALIAN
QUARANTINE AND INSPECTION SERVICES**

Star Cruises, "*The First Global Cruise Line*" and "*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*" is pleased to announce that it has received a certificate of commendation for its excellent co-operation with the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Services ("AQIS") with regard its handling of passengers and crew on all matters related to health, medical, sanitation and hygiene including the measures taken to combat Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome ("SARS")

The certificate was presented to Star Cruises on Sunday, 8th June 2003 onboard the SuperStar Virgo in Fremantle Port, Perth, Australia in a ceremony attended by senior officials of AQIS and shipboard staff of SuperStar Virgo. AQIS was represented by regional manager Mr. Jeroen den Hollander, Seaports manager Mr. Allan Morley, quarantine inspectors Mr. Jim Lorrimar and Mr. Terry Lee and media officer Ms. Jen O'Reilly while Star Cruises was represented by Captain Hakan Svedung, Staff Captain Jan Gelinder and Dr. Hpone Aung.

The SuperStar Leo and SuperStar Virgo were deployed to Australia during the height of the SARS situation in Asia and have to date successfully conducted cruises with zero incidence of SARS or suspected SARS due to the strong measures taken by the company and the stringent onboard procedures which fulfilled all requirements by AQIS.

Prior to their arrival in Australia, the ships observed a 10-day 'self-imposed quarantine' on the high seas taking longer than the number of days normally required to cover the distance. A full medical team was also placed onboard and temperatures of crew were

taken twice a day. Reports were submitted to the AQIS before the ships obtained full clearance for operations in Australian waters.

AQIS Western Australia regional manager Mr. Jeroen den Hollander said that the Star Cruises' initiative occurred amid intense media and community interest in quarantine measures to manage the risk of SARS spreading to Australia.

"It was immensely helpful that Star Cruises took such prudent measures to assist AQIS," Mr. den Hollander said.

"Our officers performing quarantine duties on the vessel were unanimous in their praise of Star Cruises' support. They have all spoken highly of the crew and ships' officers, who provided an exceptional level of service and co-operation, often going beyond AQIS requirements."

"We are very pleased with this endorsement which is a recognition on the excellent health management systems that we have placed onboard our ships. Star Cruises has never compromised on these systems as the company has always emphasised the safety and well-being of passengers and crew as top priority. To receive a certificate of commendation by AQIS - which has a reputation of setting very high standards, is very encouraging, even more so when the ships had to operate in a very challenging environment then with the onset of SARS," said Mr. Chong Chee-Tut, Star Cruises Chief Operating Officer.



From left to right: Mr. Allan Morley, AQIS Seaports Manager, Staff Doctor, Dr. Hpone Aung, Captain Hakan Svedung, Mr. Jeroen den Hollander, AQIS Western Australia Regional Manager, Staff Captain Jan Gelinder and Mr. Jim Lorrimar, Acting Risk Manager, AQIS Seaports

ABOUT STAR CRUISES

Star Cruises, the third largest cruise line in the world is a global cruise brand presently operating a combined fleet of 20 ships with over 26,000 lower berths, with cruises to destinations and islands in Asia-Pacific, North and South America, Hawaii, Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Mediterranean, Bermuda and the Antarctica under the Star Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Orient Lines & Cruise Ferries brands.

The *Pride of America* - the first of the two Project America vessels - is presently under construction at the Lloyd Werft shipyard in Germany. The 81,000-grt and 2,100 lower berth vessel is expected to commence Hawaii inter-island cruising next year with a "Best of America" theme. The second Project America vessel, which is currently sailing as Norwegian Sky will be renamed Pride of Aloha and will reflect a strong Hawaiian theme which will be accomplished after a refurbishment in September 2004. Both ships will sail under NCL's new US-flag brand - *NCL America*sm.

Star Cruises is represented in more than 20 locations worldwide with offices in Australia, New Zealand, 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.starcruises.com and www.ncl.com

For editorial, please contact Star Cruises Corporate Communications:

Jane Poh

Tel : + (60) 3 3109 2526
Fax : + (60) 3 3101 1479
Email : sjpoh@starcruises.com.my

Raymond Hew

Tel : + (60) 3 3109 2623
Fax : + (60) 3 3101 1479
Email : wyhew@starcruises.com.my