



*The Leading Cruise Line In Asia-Pacific\**

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

**5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2003**  
**INTERNATIONAL**

**SUPERSTAR ARIES BECOMES FIRST PASSENGER SHIP IN THE WORLD TO OBTAIN**  
**INTERNATIONAL SHIP SECURITY CERTIFICATE UNDER THE ISPS CODE**

Star Cruises, "*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*" is pleased to announce that it has obtained an International Ship Security Certificate for its Bahamian registered luxury liner **SuperStar Aries** in compliance with the recently adopted International Ship and Port Facility Security ("ISPS") Code. The code which comes into mandatory effect on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2004, was adopted on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2002 by one of the resolutions that were adopted by the Conference of Contracting Governments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 (London, 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> December 2002).

The objective of the code is to establish a framework involving cooperation between contracting governments, government agencies, local authorities as well as members of the shipping and port fraternity, to detect and assess security threats and to take preventive measures.

"The issuance of this certificate to Star Cruises, in particular **SuperStar Aries**, is a first for any cruise ship company in the world and involved the drafting and implementation of a Ship Security Plan which was subsequently approved by a Recognised Security Organisation - Det Norske Veritas or DNV "said Mr. Chong Chee Tut, Star Cruises Chief Operating Officer.

The steps involved in obtaining this approval included making a complete assessment of the ship in terms of the potential threats, risks and weaknesses that would jeopardise the security of the vessel at port and at sea, drafting of a Ship Security Plan to address these concerns as well as identifying different security levels on a scale of one to three with level three being the highest.

This was followed with an internal audit to verify that all the elements of the plan were in place and testing of the Ship's Security Alert System. The final phase then involved an external audit,

conducted by an Approved Recognised Security Organisation leading to the issuance of the Internal Ship Security Certificate upon satisfactory compliance.

“As a matter of self-governance, Star Cruises has already complied in a number of areas of the Code as part of its ship security policy and procedure well before the ISPS Code was officially adopted as a proactive measure to provide peace of mind to its passengers with safety being a top priority in the company” added Mr. Chong Chee Tut.

Since its inception in 1993 the company had introduced ‘airport style security’ measures involving the screening of all boarding passengers and crew as well as luggage and provisions. Star Cruises was also the first cruise company to engage former Nepalese Gurkha military personnel for it’s shipboard security force across the fleet.

SuperStar Aries is manned by a large complement of these highly trained security personnel. In addition to this the vessel is also equipped with an extensive state of the art onboard surveillance system that is directly linked to the head office.

Work on the Ship Security Plan for the other ships in the fleet are well underway and the certification for all vessels are expected to be completed before the end of the year.

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**SuperStar Aries**



**SuperStar Aries security department with the company appointed Security Officer (CSO) Captain Gustav Gronberg on the far right.**



**Captain Juha Luukka of SuperStar Aries receiving the certificate from Mr. Tanubrata, Principal Surveyor, DNV**

### **ABOUT STAR CRUISES**

Star Cruises is the third largest cruise line in the world 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*<sup>SM</sup>.

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.starcruiises.com](http://www.starcruiises.com) and [www.ncl.com](http://www.ncl.com)

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