

Star Cruises Group Announces The Christening of Its Newest And Largest U.S.-Flagged Ship.



Photo caption:

(From left) Star Cruises Chairman Tan Sri KT Lim; Honorable Julie Nelson, Acting Deputy Administrator and Chief Counsel of the Maritime Administration; Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, senior U.S. Senator from Hawai'i; Capt. Paul Wiedenhoef, Commander U.S. Coast Guard Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach and Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) CEO Colin Veitch at the Pride of Hawai'i christening, May 20, 2006 in San Pedro, California. U.S.A.

Built at the cost of over half a billion US dollars, the 93,000

22 May 2006 - U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye christened Pride of Hawai'i

Star Cruises Ltd, a company listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong, is pleased to announce the christening of Pride of Hawai'i; the largest US-flagged passenger ship ever built that will join the NCL America fleet. The official ceremony at Los Angeles on 20 May 2006 was attended by Star Cruises Chairman Tan Sri Lim Kok Thay, Colin Veitch, NCL President and CEO and the Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, Senior United States Senator from Hawai'i, who sponsored and named the vessel and played a major role in the building of this ship. NCL America is a US-flagged brand under NCL Corporation ("NCL"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Star Cruises Ltd.

The third in a series of U.S.-flagged cruise ships built for the Hawaii market, Pride of Hawai'i was born in furtherance of the "Hawai'i Cruise Ship Initiative" legislation and passed by the United States Congress in February 2003. At over 93,000 gross registered tonnes, carrying 2,400 passengers, and costing over half a billion US dollars, Pride of Hawai'i is by far the largest, most luxurious and most expensive U.S.-flagged passenger ship ever built.

Said Tan Sri Lim, "We are privileged to have in Senator Inouye a steadfast supporter for Pride of Hawai'i, and it is fitting for him to name our latest ship. With the NCL brand, Star Cruises has further established our position in the cruise market as a company synonymous with product excellence and innovation." Tan Sri Lim added.

"Pride of Hawai'i is very special because of her innovative

gross registered tonnes Pride of Hawai'i is the largest, most luxurious and most expensive U.S.-flagged passenger ship ever built.

design and features and it represents Star Cruises' vision of the future of the growing cruise industry, not just in the U.S but also in other markets such as Asia where we have pioneered the development of the industry.”

Purpose-built, Pride of Hawai'i features a vast array of accommodation including two luxurious Garden Villas with their own private gardens and sun decks, 10 Courtyard Villas sharing a private courtyard, pool and sundeck on deck 14, and a spectacular top-of-the-ship Owner's Suite. The ship also features multiple lively public rooms, 10 restaurants and impressive onboard amenities.

The positioning of the Pride of Hawai'i, will offer Asian cruise passengers and holiday makers yet another alternative to discover the wonders of the Hawai'ian islands which is a much sought-after destination. Star Cruises has been promoting its Hawai'ian Fly-Cruise packages in Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, Malaysia and the Philippines where the destination is particularly popular.

Some of the facilities have been planned and designed with our Asian passengers in mind. In terms of dining facilities, the 2,368 sq ft Jasmine Garden Asian Restaurant, offers a taste of Asia in a contemporary styled Japanese/Thai/Chinese complex. It also features favourites like a sushi and sashimi bar and a Teppanyaki room offering an interactive dining experience. The interior design features Asian iconic architecture backdrop.

Asian cruisers will also feel at home in the Ying & Yang Health Spa & Beauty Salon, Spread over an expansive 9,203 sq ft, it is a full service spa and beauty salon featuring a full array of spa treatments including a Hydro bath and thermal benches set in a Japanese Zen theme.

Senator Inouye, Pride of Hawai'i's sponsor said, "The christening of Pride of Hawai'i is the capstone of America's return to the passenger cruise industry. In addition to the significant economic benefits to the visitor industry in my state of Hawai'i, Pride of Hawai'i and her sister ships will have a broad economic impact throughout the United States by creating as many as 20,400 direct and indirect jobs, including thousands of U.S. seafarer jobs and nearly \$1 billion in annual U.S. economic activity. I am very proud to serve as Pride of Hawai'i's sponsor."

Pride of Hawai'i begins sailing in Hawai'i on 5 June, departing every Monday from Honolulu and offering the line's extremely popular itinerary with a full day in Hilo, Hawai'i; two days in Kahului, Maui; a day in Kona, Hawai'i and two days in Nawiliwili, Kauai.

NCL became a member of the Star Cruises Group in early 2000. Star Cruises is the third largest cruise operator in the world with a combined fleet of 22 ships in service including 2 to be delivered, and about 35,000 lower berths cruising to destinations and islands in Asia-Pacific, North and South America, Hawai'i, Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Mediterranean, Bermuda and the Antarctica under the Star Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, NCL America, Orient Lines and

Cruise Ferries brands. Star Cruises is listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited and traded on CLOB International in Singapore.