Lloyd's List online

Italian owners launch supramax joint venture

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- by <u>David Osler</u>

D'Amico: delivery of Dublin-based daCC Maritime's first two units is scheduled for the second half of 2015.

D'Amico and Coeclerici base new investment firm in Dublin

WELL-known Italian shipowners d'Amico Società di Navigazione and Coeclerici have established a 50/50 joint venture to invest in the shipping sector.

Known as dACC Maritime, the company will be based in Dublin. It recently finalised the purchase of two 60,000 dwt supramaxes, with options for two more, from Oshima Shipyard in Japan.

Delivery of the first two units is scheduled for the second half of 2015 and the options, if taken up, are scheduled for 2016.

The design specifications will include technical upgrades that make these units highly specialised and flexible from a technical and commercial point of view, dACC says.

D'Amico will be responsible for crewing and technical management of the vessels through its subsidiary Ishima Ship Management Singapore and commercial operations will be managed by d'Amico and Coeclerici in Dublin.

D'Amico Group president Paolo d'Amico said: "We are extremely pleased to announce this [joint venture] of two important Italian companies in today's challenging market, which rewards companies that are able to invest and innovate.

"The new constructions, which are particularly environmentally friendly and ensure superior economic efficiency, will strengthen our position in the supramax field, which we believe has considerable room for growth thanks to the synergies that will be created between the two operators."

Coeclerici chief executive Paolo Clerici described the development as an important step in the growth strategy of the group, which has not invested in dry bulk for a decade.

He said the joint venture would achieve significant results, combining different types of know-how and managerial experience.

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