



Kongsberg Maritime helped convert Hurtigruten's MS Richard With to hybrid operations

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Kongsberg delivers 23% CO₂ emissions cut for Norwegian coastal ship operator

Oslo, 18 October 2023 – Kongsberg Maritime has delivered a 23% cut in CO₂ emissions on the 121-metre passenger vessel MS *Richard With*, owned by Hurtigruten, a coastal ship operator and adventure travel company.

The vessel finished an extensive refit last summer using Kongsberg Maritime engineering and technology and has now completed its first year back in service.

Last year, Kongsberg Maritime partnered with Myklebust Verft shipyard to convert three Hurtigruten ships to hybrid technology, promising reduced emissions and quieter operations. The MS *Richard With*, built in 1993, was the first of three ships to be relaunched, in August last year. The second ship MS *Kong Harald* returned to service in May, and the final ship, MS *Nordlys* will be complete in 2025.

The project is one of the largest of its kind in Europe, with an investment value of approximately €100 million.

“We have built our last fossil fuel ship for the Norwegian Coastal Express,” said Hurtigruten Coastal Express CEO Hedda Felin. *“We had the opportunity to upgrade the fleet and give the ships the best of today’s technology. Plus, it’s more environmentally friendly to retrofit a vessel than to scrap and build a new one.”*

The refit programme for MS *Richard With* included installation of two hybrid shaft generators, two SaveEnergy 1.120kWh lithium-ion batteries and two Bergen B33:45V engines. It also has new tunnel thruster motors, a retractable azimuth thruster, and controllable pitch propeller blades, plus digital management systems.

“We can do the full turnover of a vessel in four or five months. An entirely new build takes much longer,” said Geir Oscar Løseth, Kongsberg Maritime’s Vice President of Sales Aftermarket Advanced Offerings.

“The vessel is also safer and smoother in the water. It gives the crew several layers of reassurance. They can operate on full battery, zero emission operation; they can run on auxiliary engines and they can run on main engines. So, there’s a high level of safety that meets the new requirements for lower-emission travel along the coast.”

Ship owners and operators are working to deal with IMO regulations on emissions reduction, particularly for active vessels.

“Our role is going to be to guide customers through this transition, with advisory services as well as the products and solutions that will make sure regulations are met. But we won’t do that simply by coming up with new products and solutions. We also need to look into existing fleets,” said Lisa Edvardsen Haugan, president of Kongsberg Maritime.

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About Kongsberg Maritime

Kongsberg Maritime is a global marine technology company providing innovative and reliable 'Full Picture' technology solutions for all marine industry sectors. Headquartered in Kongsberg, Norway, Kongsberg Maritime has manufacturing, sales, and service facilities in 34 countries.

Kongsberg Maritime solutions cover all aspects of marine automation, safety, manoeuvring, navigation, and dynamic positioning as well as energy management, deck handling and propulsion systems, and ship design services.

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