



Solstad's Normand Sentinel will transition to Kongsberg Maritime's state-of-the-art electric rim-drive azimuth thrusters as part of a significant upgrade to increase energy efficiency

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Kongsberg Maritime announces energy-efficient upgrade for Solstad's Normand Sentinel

Oslo, Norway – 22 May 2024 - Kongsberg Maritime is proud to announce a significant upgrade to Solstad's *Normand Sentinel*, one of its most prominent subsea construction vessels.

This upgrade will see the vessel transition to Kongsberg Maritime's state-of-the-art electric rim-drive azimuth thrusters, marking a milestone in maritime

energy efficiency.

The *Normand Sentinel*, measuring 143 metres in length and boasting years of reliable service, is set to receive this upgrade during its next scheduled drydocking. The vessel's current AZP 120 CP mechanical thrusters will be replaced with the cutting-edge RD-AZ2600 rim-drive thrusters from Kongsberg Maritime.

“This strategic move supports the green shift by significantly reducing fuel consumption. Additionally, the technology improves the vessel's operability and capacity, while reducing the maintenance scope. This aligns with Solstad's continuous commitment to reduce emissions,” said Tor Johan Tveit, Chief Operating Officer, Solstad.

Kongsberg Maritime's detailed examination of the vessel's operations revealed that by adopting rim-drive azimuth thrusters, the *Normand Sentinel* can achieve dramatic energy savings.

James Poulton, SVP Aftermarket Sales at Kongsberg Maritime, said: “This change is not just a technical enhancement but a strategic move towards sustainability, promising energy savings of up to 16% during transit operations and a significant 40% in Dynamic Positioning (DP) mode.

“Solstad's investment in this ten-year-old vessel is a bold statement of their commitment to providing energy-efficient and environmentally friendly maritime solutions. The anticipated energy savings, particularly in DP mode, will ensure the vessel remains a preferred choice in the market.”

“The upcoming upgrade of the *Normand Sentinel* is a testament to Kongsberg Maritime's progressive approach, actively embracing technological advancements and innovation for a greener maritime industry,” added Poulton.

In addition to the energy savings, the transition to rim-drive thrusters will lead to a significant reduction in maintenance costs for Solstad. The innovative rim-drive technology simplifies the propulsion system by minimising the number of mechanical components, which in turn reduces the frequency and complexity of maintenance interventions. This not only enhances the operational efficiency of the *Normand Sentinel* but also

contributes to a lower total cost of ownership, reinforcing Kongsberg Maritime's commitment to providing cost-effective and sustainable solutions in the maritime industry.

The retrofit process is meticulously planned to be as efficient as possible, requiring no significant modifications to the vessel's hull and not extending the standard drydocking period. The mechanical interface will be removed, but the existing equipment within the hull will be utilised, allowing the new rim-drive thrusters to integrate seamlessly with the existing steering gear.

In November 2023, Kongsberg Maritime and Solstad reinforced their partnership by signing a collaboration agreement focused on decarbonisation initiatives. This agreement underscores both companies' dedication to enhancing fuel efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions across Solstad's fleet. Additionally, the partnership will explore the integration of innovative digital technologies to further improve operational efficiency.

Solstad operates a fleet of around 40 state-of-the-art ships worldwide, all featuring Kongsberg Maritime equipment. This fleet positions Solstad as one of the global leaders in offshore shipping.

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About Kongsberg Maritime

Kongsberg Maritime is a global marine technology company providing innovative and reliable 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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