Joint Announcement issued by Pacific Seaways and Seatrade Group of Companies

Pacific Seaways and Seatrade to combine their Chilean activities

Seatrade, the world largest reefer operator and owner, and leader in specialised reefer logistics, and Pacific Seaways, Chile's most important shipping group, created and managed by fruit growers/exporters, have joined forces to establish Global Reefers NV, a company which aims to offer the industry the most efficient service on specialised reefers and container lines from Chile, Peru and Colombia to the world.

Pacific Seaways and Seatrade have had business relationships spanning for over 20 years. The new company, based in Valparaiso (Chile), strengthens their common goal of ensuring "reliable, fast, direct and dedicated reefer shipping logistics towards the future", as their executives have stated.

Global Reefers NV has begun its operations in October 2013; its Board of Directors, in which Seatrade and Pacific Seaways are equally represented, has designated Francisco Labarca, the current CEO of Pacific Seaways, as the company's Managing Director.

The new Managing Director has stated that “the union between these companies is a unique and new way of operating, which will allow the fruit and shipping industries to work together consolidating the best transport alternatives for Chile's product. The freezes that have affected our country's agriculture will seriously impact the Chilean volumes and have once again put in the spotlight the need to coordinate efforts to find more efficient ways of ensuring the adequate size, timing and quantity of good quality reefer ships.”

Along the same lines, Seatrade's CEO Yntze Buitenwerf stated that “our development goes hand in hand with the growth of our customers, and this platform will give us further possibilities to invest in the reefer business”.

PACIFIC SEAWAYS was established in 1980 by a group of pioneering Chilean fruit exporters. Today the consortium has among its member some of Chile's leading fruit exporters. A team of professionals is dedicated to organising the best shipping solutions for this fine Chilean produce, using its own specialised reefer liner services as well as selected container lines for worldwide destinations.

SEATRADE’s team of chartering and operations professionals based in Antwerp handle a fleet of over 100 modern specialised reefer vessels. The variety of configurations, capacities and capabilities of the fleet provides flexibility unparalleled in the industry. With a service range extending from spot voyages, time charters and contracts of affreightment to fast, direct and dedicated liner services, customers can count on Seatrade for timely delivery of their produce. A network of dedicated offices and agents further enhances its global presence.

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