

The *M/T Damia Desgagnés* is successfully launched

Quebec City, June 16th, 2016 — Desgagnés announces with great pride and enthusiasm that the *M/T Damia Desgagnés* was successfully launched on Saturday, June 11th, 2016, at the Turkish shipyard Besiktas. This is an important step leading to the continuation of the construction of the ship at dock. This next generation asphalt-bitumen-chemical tanker is the first of four tankers destined to the renewal and expansion of Desgagnés's fleet.

Expected for fall 2016, the *M/T Damia Desgagnés* will have a deadweight of 15,100 tons and be able carry 13,350 tons of asphalt at a draft of 7.8 meters; its tanks will offer a carrying capacity of 14,950 m³ at 98 %. It will be equipped with a Wärtsila 5RT-flex 50DF propulsion engine with a power output of 5,540 kW, and have a POLAR 7 certification, allowing it to navigate in ice-laden waters.

It will hold a *CLEANSHIP SUPER* notation, meaning that the ship has several equipment meeting strict environmental standards including ballast and grey water treatment systems, as well as being able to operate at least seven consecutive days with no discharge of effluents or residues. The *M/T Damia Desgagnés* will also hold a *GREEN PASSPORT* notation, certifying that certain specific materials used during the construction of the ship are identified and noted in a record updated annually and re-certified every 5 years, to ensure safe manipulation and disposal of those materials during the vessel's maintenance and repair, as well as during its dismantlement upon the end of its useful life.

Louis-Marie Beaulieu, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Desgagnés, says that Desgagnés demonstrates its vision and environmental leadership in the Canadian marine industry, as all the vessels on order will be powered by dual-fuel engines allowing the use of liquefied natural gas (LNG), marine diesel oil (MDO) and heavy fuel oil (HFO): a first for merchant vessels in Canada.

When using natural gas as its primary source of energy, the *Damia Desgagnés* will achieve several environmental objectives, including: the reduction of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by approximately 25% due to a lower carbon content in natural gas compared to liquid fuels; the reduction of nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions by over 85% due to the lean-burn combustion process achieved by the ship's engine; the near-complete elimination of sulphur oxide (SO_x) emissions since natural gas contains very little sulphur; and air particle emissions will be practically non-existent due to the efficient combustion of natural gas.

"The *Damia Desgagnés* is part of an extensive investment program for the renewal and expansion of the Desgagnés fleet with vessels fitted with cutting-edge technology, which

demonstrates Desgagnés’s commitment and confidence in its future,” says M. Louis-Marie Beaulieu.

Groupe Desgagnés Inc.

Groupe Desgagnés Inc., whose headquarters are in Quebec City, is a conglomerate that has specialized since the 19th century in marine transportation of liquid bulk, general cargo, dry bulk and passengers. Its activities also extend to ship repair as well as the rental and operation of heavy machinery. The company owns and operates a fleet of ships that navigate on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, the Canadian Arctic, the East coasts of Canada and the United States and all the seas of the world. With an annual turnover nearing 230 million dollars, Desgagnés creates approximately 1,000 jobs in high season with a payroll exceeding 50 million dollars.

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Enclosures: Photos of the *Damia Desgagnés*

Source: Claude Dumais
Executive Vice-President — Operations and Special Projects
Groupe Desgagnés Inc.
Phone: (418) 692-1000
www.desgagnes.com