



News Release

**Kokusai Cable Ship and MOL Sign Memorandum of Understanding
on Operation of Cable-laying Ships for Offshore Wind Power Generation**





TOKYO, October 1, 2021—Kokusai Cable Ship Co., Ltd. (KCS; President: Koji Ono; Headquarters: Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa Prefecture) and Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. (MOL; President & CEO: Takeshi Hashimoto; Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo) today announced that on September 24, 2021, they concluded a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on collaborative operation of cable-laying ships to meet increasing demand for installation of power cables—a key element of supply chains in the globally expanding offshore wind farm business.

KCS was established in 1966 and the following year launched the *KDD Maru*, Japan's first submarine cable-laying ship. Over the ensuing half century, the company has been involved in the construction of some 70,000km of undersea cables, mainly in the Asia-Pacific region. It is a leading company in submarine cable-laying and maintenance, and oversees the maintenance of over 87,000km of cable. In 2019, KCS launched the *KDDI Cable Infinity*, Japan's first self-propelled power and telecommunication cable-laying ship.

MOL and its group company MOL Marine & Engineering Co., Ltd. (MOLMEC) have managed and operated a total of four ^(Fig.1) KCS-owned cable-laying ships including the *KDD Maru* for over 50 years. The MOL Group is the only Japanese ocean shipping company involved in the management and operation of cable-laying ships. Cable-laying ships adopt "Dynamic Positioning Systems" to lay submarine cables with safety and precision, and MOL and MOLMEC have accumulated technology and expertise to automatically maintain the ship position under various environmental and weather conditions. Their collective know-how and skilled personnel are expected to be used in a wide range of various offshore businesses, including the rapidly growing wind power generation field.

KCS is responsible for cable handling and laying operations, which require advanced technology, expertise, and knowledge, while MOL and MOLMEC are in charge of ship management and operation including supplying seafarers who have the advanced skills to operate the "Dynamic Positioning Systems" indispensable for cable-laying ships. As they fulfill these roles, both companies will jointly research commercial opportunities in new submarine cable-laying demand, mainly for offshore wind farm facilities, which are gaining wider application in Japan and throughout Asia.



Ship name	<i>Infinity</i>	<i>Ocean Link</i>	<i>Pacific Link</i>	<i>KDD Maru</i>
Exterior view				
Ship registry	Japan/Kitakyushu	Japan/Yokohama	Japan/Kitakyushu	Japan/Yokohama
Operation	Started in 2019	Started in 1992	1998~2019	1969~1997
LOA	113.1m	133.5m	109.0m	113.8m
Breadth	21.5m	19.6m	20.5m	15.4m
Gross tonnage	9,766 tons	9,510 tons	7,960 tons	4,257 tons
Speed	12 knots	15 knots	9 knots	16 knots
Accommodation	80 persons	85 persons	58 persons	76 persons
DPS	DP-2	DP	DP-2	-
Coverage	Telecommunication/ Electric power	Telecommunication cable	Telecommunication cable	Telecommunication cable

(Fig.1) Outline of 4 cable-laying ships

About Kokusai Cable Ship Co., Ltd. (KCS)

KCS has been involving in laying and maintenance of submarine cables for international and domestic communications networks. It has now started to approach to engaging in electric power cable laying for renewable energy in addition to observation and resources exploration fields, by leveraging its state-of-the-art technology. For details, please visit our website: <http://www.k-kcs.co.jp/english/>

About Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. (MOL)

MOL was founded in 1884, and is headquartered in Tokyo. It is a leading company in the ocean shipping industry, operating a fleet of about 800 vessels to transport various commodities such as resources, energy, raw materials, and products. For details, please visit our website: www.mol.co.jp/en/

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