

Flensburg shipyard launched the new Tirrenia ro-ro flagship

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The Flensburg shipyard launched today the first of two cargo ro-ro vessels that have been ordered by the Onorato group and will be the biggest and the greenest ro-ro ships sailing the Med. The first of these two ships has been christened "Alf Pollack", so as to honour the first German tour operator, Alf Pollack, who, in the heighthies, gave trust to the then newly established shipping company, Moby lines, chaired the company Seatours International and was a close friend of the founder of Moby, Mr. Vincenzo Onorato.

The new ro-ro, ordered directly by the Onorato family and due to operate under the Tirrenia navigazione colours, is 209,79 metres long, with a 32.770 tons dwt e 6,80 metres draft. It will transport 4,100 linear metres cargo ad will be able to load 300 trailers. It is expected to start operating in Autumn next on a still to be disclosed Motorways of the Sea route in the Med. With the sister vessel that is expected to be launched in the next few months and with two new cargo-pax ferries (2500 passengers and 3500 linear metres carjust ordered in China), the Onorato Group, including Moby lines, Tirrenia, Toremar and the recently founded St. Peter Moby (operating cruise services in the Baltic Sea) will increase dramatically its strenght on the major ro-ro routes in the Med. Mr Vincenzo Onorato expressed satisfaction for the hard work carrier out by the Flensburg shipyard that is considered the market leader for ro-ro and ro-ro pax vessels. "The launch of this vessel makes us very proud and faithfull: our group is now willing to play a leading role both in the cabotage sector (i.e. routes connecting Italy and France with major Islands) and in the highly competitive market of Motorways of the seas," said Onorato. "Furthermore we are confident to give a substantial help to the Italian shipping and especially to Italian seafarers who are still suffering from the terrible crisis that hit the Italian marine sector during the last five years," he added.