



Costa Group strengthens organization

Genoa, Italy, January 29, 2015 – Michael Thamm, CEO of the Costa Group, today announced a number of changes to strengthen the leadership team and the company's organizational structure.

Effective February 1st, 2015, the current Senior Vice President Hotel Operations & Product Development, Neil Palomba, will be appointed President of Costa Crociere, Genoa. He will be responsible for managing the Costa brand, as well as for the structure and design of products, sales and customer care at Europe's leading cruise company.

Also effective February 1st, 2015, the company will appoint Buhdy Sin Bok, the current Senior Vice President Pacific Asia & China, as President of Costa Asia, Shanghai. This reflects the increasing importance of Asia for the Costa Group, especially the rapidly growing Chinese market in which Costa Asia is the market leader.

The two newly appointed presidents will, together with Michael Ungerer, who heads AIDA Cruises, report directly to the CEO of Costa Crociere S.p.A..

"I would like to congratulate Neil and Buhdy on their new positions and look forward to working with them intensively on the further expansion of our company. These appointments will help us strengthen our Costa and Costa Asia brands and support the development of our global activities, especially in Europe and Asia," says Michael Thamm.

Development of a central Marine Operations Center for the Costa Group

A further organizational change announced today is the establishment of a central Marine Operations Center in Hamburg, Germany. Under the name Carnival Maritime, Costa Group is creating, with the support of Lufthansa Technik, a highly modern, digitalized unit for the operation of its fleet, currently numbering 25 ships. Carnival Maritime will be led by Jens Lassen, current Senior Vice President Marine Operations AIDA Cruises, who will also report directly to the CEO of Costa Group.

"The Hamburg location offers us excellent access to technology and expertise in the maritime sector. We are certain that the close cooperation with Lufthansa Technik will enable us to transfer airline know-how to continuously improve the quality of our fleet's operations," Thamm continues.

Costa Crociere S.p.A. is the leading cruise company in Europe. The 25 ships of the brands Costa Crociere, AIDA Cruises and Costa Asia together have a total capacity of 68,000 beds. The fleet will be further strengthened by two new vessels with a total of 8,700 beds by 2016. The company has a global workforce of 27,000 employees working onboard and in its 20 offices in 14 countries.

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