

The largest CMA CGM vessel ever to serve Canada makes maiden call in Vancouver

Tuesday, 19 October 2010

The largest CMA CGM vessel ever to call at a Canadian port, the 8,500-TEU CMA CGM FIGARO, arrived today in Vancouver. On this occasion a ceremony in the presence of the Port Authorities will be held tomorrow onboard the vessel.

The CMA CGM FIGARO is deployed on the Columbus loop, a pendulum service linking China and Korea to Pacific North West and Canada as well as the United States East Coast via the Suez Canal.

The CMA CGM FIGARO, like all new vessels of this type ordered by the CMA CGM Group, is equipped with a combination of innovative environmental features, including:

- a Fast Oil Recovery System that will significantly limit environmental impact should there be an incident at sea;

- an electronically controlled engine, reducing oil and fuel consumption by 25% and 3%, respectively, while allowing the vessel to operate at super eco-speed of 14 to 15 knots;

- pre-equipment to connect to on-shore electric power during dock-side operations.

In response to a sustained market demand on the Asia-Transpacific lines, the Columbus Service now deploys 15 vessels between 6,500 and 8,500 TEU, the latest upgrade being the introduction of the newly built CMA CGM LA SCALA. She is a sistership to CMA CGM FIGARO and started her rotation on Monday in Qingdao.

“The FIGARO and other large vessels in our fleet, due to their size and equipment, are critical strategic assets in the supply chains of our customers. The Columbus Service is the perfect transport vector via the Vancouver gateway with intermodal relays to and from the Prairies and Eastern Canada covering as such the whole range of Canadian imports and exports.” said Jean-Philippe Thenoz, Senior Vice President North American Lines, CMA CGM Group.

The CMA CGM FIGARO will leave Vancouver on Thursday and follow her rotation to Yokohama, Shanghai, Ningbo, Hong Kong, Yantian, Tanjung Pelapas, Suez Canal, New York, Norfolk, Savannah, Suez Canal, Tanjung Pelapas, Hong Kong, Yantian, Shanghai, Pusan and Seattle.

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