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From Russia with power – Pella uses Cat marine engines for azimuth-driven tugs

Hamburg, Germany – Open JSC “Pella” shipyard in Saint Petersburg, Russia, has signed a frame contract with Zeppelin Russland, the Caterpillar dealer for Russia and the territory of the former CIS. The well-known specialist for azimuth-driven tugs will use Cat marine power for another six tugboats. The contract covers 8x Cat 3512B and 4x Cat 3516B main engines plus 12x Cat 3056 generating sets.

The yard, which started shipbuilding in the 1950s, has built numerous commercial vessels, focussing especially on fishing boats, pilot boats and tugs. Pella offers a variety of standard tugboat designs, but its most successful product currently is the “90600” design, an azimuth-driven tug with a length of 25.40 metres and a beam of 8.80 metres.

Ten Type “90600” tugs have been sold. Three ships powered by Cat units were delivered to the port of St. Petersburg in 2005/06. Those vessels each use 2x Cat 3512B main engines, rated 1,014 kW at 1,600 rpm, and driving Rolls-Royce stern-mounted thrusters. The configuration gives a bollard pull in excess of 24 tons and a maximum speed of 12 knots. Electricity is provided by 2x Cat 3056 per ship.

A longer, more powerful tug is the “16609” model, which has a bollard pull of 40 to 60 tons. Nine tugs of this type have been sold. Two ships, with Cat power onboard, were delivered to Western Bulk AS in Norway in 2007. Designed by Torola Ltd. in the Ukraine, they are 28.5 metres long and 9.5 metres wide tugs and have 2x Caterpillar 3512B main engines, rated 1,305 kW at 1,600 rpm, driving Rolls-Royce Z-Drives. Twin Cat 3056 generating sets are installed as well.

In 2008, Pella will deliver five tugboats with Cat main and auxiliary power for customers in Norway, Italy and Russia. It expects orders for another five to seven Cat-powered boats in 2009. “Providing the yard with integrated power packages for main propulsion, electrical and emergency power supply has driven the relationship with Pella,” said Valentin Romanov, Territory Sales Manager Russia at Caterpillar Marine Power Systems in Moscow. “Furthermore, Zeppelin Russland utilised the expertise of Caterpillar’s European Marine Excellence Center (MEC) for tailor-made packaging and complete Marine Classification Society (MCS) certification of the generating sets prior to delivery. That’s a time and cost-saving benefit for both Pella shipyard and their customers.”

Caterpillar Marine Power Systems**About Caterpillar Marine Power Systems**

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More information is available at: <http://www.cat-marine.com/>
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