

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hull of first LNG-vessel ATAIR designed for survey, wreck search and research is completed

FASSMER in cooperation with GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL reaches further milestone

(Kiel, 15.10.2018) On schedule: With the fully welded steel structure (ship's hull and superstructures) GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL shipyard is closing the next important construction part within the realization of the new LNG-vessel "ATAIR" for the BSH (Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency).

GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL is building the hull of the first LNG-operated, seagoing vessel as subcontractor for the company FASSMER. In order to ensure the high quality standards not only the department Ship's Technology of the BAW (Federal Waterways Engineering and Research Institute) but also the company FASSMER is involved during the entire production with an own project team.

"Not having our own sufficient capacities for building the ship's hull, we decided for a trustful, experienced project partner, GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL" Harald Fassmer, Managing Director of FASSMER GmbH & Co. KG explains the project constellation for the new building ATAIR adding: "We are pleased to have made the right decision for a cooperation – especially regarding the fulfilment of the of the given timeframe."

The managing director of GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL, Jörg Herwig also shows contentment regarding the development of the project, "Only 2.5 weeks after having lifted the bow with the last hull part into our building dock, we were able to weld the hull completely. On one hand this certainly underlines our shipbuilding expertise and on the other hand – which we would definitely like to emphasize – this shows a great team performance which should be highly appreciated."

At the end of January 2019 the ship will be launched at GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL and after that it will be towed to Berne to the outfitting pier of FASSMER.

Subsequently further outfitting and necessary equipment will be completed there. Following extensive trials, the commissioning of the vessel designed for future survey, wreck search and research is planned for spring 2020.

Facts:

Beginning of steel cutting: 31.10.2017

Keel Laying: 20.12.2017

Company FASSMER GmbH & Co. KG:

The company was founded in 1850 and is 100% family-run being managed in 5th generation by brothers Holger and Harald Fassmer. In the field of shipbuilding the company develops, designs and manufactures special purpose ships for civilian and military use. These include for example research ships, offshore patrol vessels, ferries (LNG), explorer yachts or also rescue cruisers.

As manufacturer of rescue boats and launching appliances FASSMER belongs to the world's leading suppliers. In the field of plant engineering the company manufactures boarding systems and cargo ports in the outer shell of yachts and passenger ships beneath others.

In the field of wind turbines FASSMER also manufactures spinner and nacelle covers as well as helipads made of plastic and aluminum. In the product field of fibre composite technology components are mass produced for the automobile and leisure industry. FASSMER disposes of production facilities in Germany, Poland, China and the USA with more than 1,200 employees worldwide.

GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL GmbH:

GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL is specialized in construction and building large military vessels such as frigates, corvettes and offshore patrol vessels.

Developed from the surface shipbuilding of HDW (Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft GmbH), the shipyard faces 180 years of history. It was previously named HDW-Gaarden and has a long military tradition: Ships of all frigate classes developed at GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL, with which the Germany Navy is presently operating.

The largest dry dock in the Baltic Sea (426 m of length) and a 900 tons gantry crane are included in its efficient infrastructure.

Together with NOBISKRUG (Rendsburg) and LINDENAU (Kiel), GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL is part of the German shipyard group GERMAN NAVAL YARDS. With an integrated management and a common administration they use the infrastructure of the three nearby shipyard sites thus pooling the competences of its about 950 employees in Schleswig-Holstein.

GERMAN NAVAL YARDS is part of the Prinvest Group, a leading supplier of solutions for military and defence industry. The worldwide known industry experts such as French navalvay shipyard CMN and Isherwoods in Great Britain belong to the European group of Prinvest. Their competences perfectly complete the expertise of GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL as system integrator for large, complex naval vessels.

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