



## **Lars Ljoen is Executive Vice President at Carnival Maritime**

April 15, 2016

Hamburg, April 15, 2016 – Effective today, Lars Ljoen (46) will take over the position of Executive Vice President and Managing Director at Carnival Maritime, the marine service unit of the Costa Group in Hamburg. Besides further advancing the unit's performance, he will be responsible for supervising the departments Fleet Governance, Cruise Preparation & Projects, Cruise Execution as well as Continuous Improvement and the Fleet Operations Center.

The native Norwegian shows a long track record in marine operations: He began his career on supply vessels and shuttle tankers in the North Sea offshore industry. In 1997, he joined Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. where he worked on the cruise vessels and ashore at the headquarters in Miami, managing fleet-wide navigation issues, maritime training and deck operations. During his eight years of employment here, he became Director of Marine Operations. In 2005, Ljoen joined Ceres Marine Terminals (NYK Ports) in Miami as Vice President of Business Development. Almost ten years later he headed up the development of business strategies for cruise services, roll-on/roll-off business and general cargo for the North American port activities of NYK Line.

Finally in 2015, Ljoen joined Carnival Maritime, leading the Cruise Preparation & Projects department as Senior Vice President. In this position he was responsible for port operations, dry dockings, deck & engine human resources, innovations and technical purchasing.

As Executive Vice President, Ljoen will directly report to Michael Thamm, CEO of the Costa Group. He takes over his new position from Jens Lassen, until now Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Carnival Maritime, who will continue to assist Ljoen in an advisory capacity. "I am happy to welcome Lars in our management team. With his extensive experiences in marine operations and his passionate leadership style, Lars will strengthen our performance as a Center of Excellence for the fleet," Thamm comments.

"I am very excited about this new opportunity, as I feel it allows me to shape the future of cruising. My fantastic team and I will put our best efforts into reaching the ambitious goals of Carnival Maritime: Having the highest efficiency, lowest energy consumption and lowest repair and maintenance costs in the industry," Ljoen adds.

Carnival Maritime is the marine service unit for the Costa Group, Europe's leading Cruise Company. This unit bundles competences and best practices in the area of marine operations to achieve the highest security standards in the cruise industry for the fleet of the Costa Group, which currently includes 26 cruise ships of the brands Costa Crociere, Costa Asia and AIDA Cruises. Carnival Maritime combines the company's expertise in the areas of marine, technology, health, environmental protection and security for the Costa Group in Hamburg. Together with the departments of the service unit, the Fleet Operations Center (FOC) monitors all nautical and technical aspects of the ships. The aim is to establish a "zero incident strategy" in risk management. The unit was founded in 2015, and employs 150 specialists.

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