Tokyo LNG Tanker and Nippon Yusen Kaisha Jointly Signed a Shipbuilding Contract with Kawasaki Shipbuilding

Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd. Tokyo LNG Tanker Co., Ltd.

Tokyo LNG Tanker Co., Ltd. (Headquartered in Minato-ku, Tokyo, President: Kazumasa Hidai), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd. and Nippon Yusen Kaisha (NYK Line; Headquartered in Chiyoda-ku Tokyo, President: Koji Miyahara) has reached a basic agreement for joint ownership (Tokyo LNG Tanker: 70%, NYK Line: 30%) of a new MOSS-type 153,000m³ LNG vessel, and with a time charter for 20-year term. Together they have signed a shipbuilding contract with Kawasaki Shipbuilding Corporation (Headquartered in Chuo-ku, Kobe, President Yuichi Taniguchi).

The ship will have four spherical LNG tanks, three of which are being stretched by two meters in vertical direction. This design enables tank capacity to be increased by about 5.5% (8,000m³) while maintaining the same ship dimensions and with the same fuel oil consumption, achieving greater shipping efficiency. Compatible to major LNG terminals worldwide, after its completion in March 2009, the ship will join Tokyo LNG Tanker fleet and transport LNG cargos from Northwest Shelf Expansion Project, Malaysia I and III Project, Darwin Project. Shipmanagement will be done by NYK Line under 20 year-term time charter.

The new ship is the seventh LNG tanker of Tokyo LNG Tanker fleet. By managing multiple vessels, the Tokyo Gas Group intends to procure LNG not only through long term contract, but also through short term, spot contract and by other innovative methods. This would further lower LNG import costs of Tokyo Gas while increasing its LNG procurement flexibility. Tokyo Gas is also considering to expand its LNG transport business, and charter-in/charter-out of LNG ships.

Reference 1: Outline of Tokyo LNG Tanker

1) Company Name Tokyo LNG Tanker Co., Ltd.

2) Established March 5th, 1991

3) Registered Head Office 1-5-20 Kaigan Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan

4) President Kazumasa Hidai

5) Main Service Owning and Charter of LNG tankers,

Marine Tranportation of LNG and LPG, etc

6) Capital 1.2 billion yen

Reference 2 LNG ships owned or operated by Tokyo LNG Tanker Co., Ltd.

		Ship Name	Capacity (m³)	Туре	Built	Ownership of Tokyo LNG Tanker	LNG Projects
Project-dedicated Ships	No.1	LNG Flora	125,000	Moss	1993.3	10%	Indonesia Badak IV
	No.2	LNG Vesta	125,000	Moss	1994.6	35%	
Non project-dedicated ships	No.3	Energy Frontier	145,000	Moss	2003.9	100%	NWS Expansion, Malaysia I, Malaysia III, Darwin others
	No.4	Energy Advance	145,000	Moss	2005.3	90%	
	No.5	NB KSC # 1540	145,000	Moss	(2006.12)	0%	
	No.6	NB KSC #1600	145,000	Moss	(2008.3)	70%	
	No.7	New tanker	153,000	Moss	(2009.3)	70%	