



PRESS RELEASE

Louis Dreyfus Armateurs Announces the Selection of the Shipyard and Naval Architect for its New SOVs

Following the initial announcement of the order for three Service Operation Vessels (SOVs) for Vattenfall, Louis Dreyfus Armateurs (LDA) is pleased to confirm the selection of SALT as the naval architect and ZPMC as the shipyard for the construction of these purpose-built vessels.

Suresnes, France – February 19, 2025

SALT, a long-time partner of LDA and a recognized leader in offshore vessel design, has been entrusted with the development of the new SOVs. Having previously collaborated on the design of Wind of Change and Wind of Hope with SALT, LDA has leveraged more than five years of operational experience, to conduct a complete redesign. The improvements focus on maximizing operational efficiency, uptime, and optimizing energy consumption. The workflow for technicians has also been revisited to further improve safety and efficiency on board. The Wind of Change was the first hybrid-electric SOV of its time, setting a market standard that has since become the norm. The new vessels represent the next generation. Enhanced maneuverability is achieved thanks to four azimuth thrusters, together with superior dynamic positioning (DP) performance. The vessels will also feature an advanced gangway system and a 3D motion-compensated crane. Additionally, special attention has been given to technicians and crew comfort, transforming the SOVs into high-standard floating hotels.

ZPMC (Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industries Company Limited) has been chosen as the shipyard for the construction of the new SOVs. While widely known for its expertise in port equipment, ZPMC has been expanding into the offshore vessel sector for decades, successfully delivering heavy lift vessels, wind turbine installation vessels (WTIVs), cable laying vessels (CLVs) and subsea construction vessels. The new SOVs will integrate high-end European components, including the gangway system, the DP system and key propulsion line systems, ensuring tier I performance and reliability.

*“With the expertise of SALT in naval architecture and the proven industrial capabilities of ZPMC, we are confident that these new SOVs will set a new benchmark in offshore wind operations,” stated **Kamil Beffa, CEO of LDA**. “Our commitment to operational excellence and comfort on board remains at the forefront of this project, and we look forward to delivering vessels that will serve as references in the offshore wind industry.”*

With these new SOVs, Louis Dreyfus Armateurs is continuing its ongoing commitment to design, build and operate vessels that are tailored to meet the specific needs of our clients. By continuously refining our approach and incorporating industry feedback, we strive to provide efficient, reliable, and sustainable vessels that contribute to the overall improvements of offshore wind operations.



SOVs on order for Vattenfall



Stepless boat landing



Main warehouse



Panoramic lounge



Auditorium

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About Louis Dreyfus Armateurs

For over 170 years, LOUIS DREYFUS ARMATEURS Group (LDA) has specialized in providing custom industrial maritime solutions with high-added-value activities and integrated services to its clients, ranging from ship design and ship management to maritime operations, in the fields of transport, logistics, submarine cables and renewable energy.

LDA is a French family-owned Group, offering a worldwide presence with over 3,000 staff and 100 vessels.

For more information, visit: www.lda.fr