

Breakthrough in green shipping: the Japanese KAWASAKI KISEN KAISHA, LTD. (“K” LINE) signs for up to 50 automated kites from AIRSEAS

Oslo, Norway: After 2 years of close technical and business cooperation, KAWASAKI KISEN KAISHA, LTD. (“K” LINE) announces a 20-year agreement with AIRSEAS to install and service one ship with Seawing, an automated kite based on parafoil technology used to tow commercial ship and reduce CO2 by 20% through wind propulsion. Once the first Seawing is successfully delivered, “K”LINE will contemplate to order up to 50 additional Seawing.

“Seawing represents a breakthrough for our industry and for the environment. “K”LINE is proud to demonstrate its commitment to the global environment by applying leading technology to improve ship efficiency and to solve the core issues of maritime emissions. Beyond reducing our emissions by more than 20% with its kite, AIRSEAS is a top end digital partner looking at integrating their solution with our “Kawasaki Integrated Maritime Solutions” which is integrated vessel operation and performance management system in order to smartly manage our vessel operation. Seawing reduces the environmental footprint of capsized vessel by 5,200 tons of CO2 per year depending on the vessel voyage route, that is contributing to achieving our goal to reduce CO2 emissions by half, targeting year 2050, in “K”LINE Environmental Vision 2050.” says Mr Asano, SMEO of “K”LINE.

The Japanese “K”LINE, known for its excellence in safety and service quality, transports goods worldwide through its fleet of 520 vessels.

“We are proud that K-LINE as a leading ship owner confirms its trust towards AIRSEAS following its two years of intense assessment of our solution. With this deal, AIRSEAS will kick-start its industrial scale up. Seawing’s innovative technology will become a leading energy efficient solution for the shipping industry, thus contributing to cleaner sky and oceans.” says Mr Bernatets, CEO of AIRSEAS.

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About “K”LINE: “K”LINE (Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, LTD.) just celebrated its 100th anniversary and operates 520 vessels worldwide in dry bulk, energy resource transport and car carrying. Its corporate principal is to contribute to society so that people live well and prosperously. Innovating to preserve the environment is therefore one top priority in line with its corporate values.

About AIRSEAS: AIRSEAS combines aeronautical know-how in modelling and control laws with maritime technology to bring a game changing energy efficiency solution to shipping. As a spin-off of AIRBUS, it aims at equipping 15% of the world’s fleet by 2030. Its partners and supports are Airbus, LMG Marin, MaxSea, ENSM, Nervures, ADEME, PIA, Région Occitanie, Région Pays de la Loire and Michelin Développement.

About Seawing: Seawing combines aeronautical know-how with maritime technology to create a breakthrough in the maritime transportation sector. A simple switch launches or recovers the kite which unfolds, operates and refolds autonomously. The system collects and analyses meteorological and oceanic data in real-time. Seawing adapts to this information in order to optimize its performance as well as to ensure maximum safety.

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