

**Media:** The Business Times

**Date:** 8 August 2008

# ST Marine bags \$20-25m ship maintenance contract

**It will also provide drydocking for 15 tankers for 16 months starting Sept**

By **VINCENT WEE**

SINGAPORE Technologies Engineering unit ST Marine yesterday announced that it had secured a \$20 million to \$25 million contract for fleet maintenance and drydocking for 15 tankers for a period of 16 months from a repeat customer beginning from September. Separately, Drydocks World (South-east Asia) also announced the delivery of a UT780 anchor handling tug supply vessel to Abu Dhabi-based ESNAAD/ADNOC group.

ST Marine's agreement with its European customer includes reserving drydock space for the customer's ships when they are due for drydocking in the vicinity of Singapore port. This will allow the 15 tankers to be re-



**Success:** The delivery of a UT780 anchor handling tug supply vessel to Abu Dhabi-based ESNAAD/ADNOC group

paired and upgraded in a more timely and cost-effective manner, ST Marine said.

"This agreement is exemplary of ST Marine's commitment to our customers. We are pleased that we have fostered a lasting relationship with this European customer and are today its trusted partner," said ST

Marine president Chang Cheow Teck.

Meanwhile, the 60-tonne bollard pull AHTS vessel, powered by two 1,800kW engines, is the second vessel delivered from a series of five on order at the Drydocks World - Nanindah yard in Batam for the ESNAAD/ADNOC Group.

ESNAAD general manager Darwish A Al Qubaisi, recently took delivery of the vessel and presided over the naming ceremony. Designed for operations in the Arabian Gulf, the tug will be registered in Abu Dhabi, and fly the UAE flag.

The company is privileged to have been entrusted with the current contract to build five vessels for ESNAAD/ADNOC Group, said Drydocks World - SE Asia CEO Denis Welch at the delivery ceremony, and he hoped that this would be the beginning of a long term relationship.

This is the tenth vessel of the UT780 design that Drydocks World - Nanindah has completed since 2004. Drydocks World - Nanindah has the capability to deliver about 15 vessels a year.

Drydocks World - SE Asia was formed at the end of March and brings together the various business operations acquired by Drydocks World, principally shipyards in Singapore and Batam. Current activities are centred on four shipyards engaged in ship and rig building, conversion and ship repair.