

DFDS and Polferries to collaborate on Swinoujscie-Ystad

DFDS will charter the ship operating on the route, and Polferries will continue to operate the ship and the route. The collaboration gives DFDS access to the important Polish market and extends the route network. Polferries achieves a more solid platform for further development.

DFDS and Polferries are joining forces on Poland-Sweden. On 1 November 2008, DFDS will charter the combined passenger/freight vessel, WAWEL, from Polferries/PZB. At the same time, the two companies have entered into a management agreement which means that the ship will remain on its current route between Swinoujscie in Poland and Ystad in Sweden: The ship will also continue to be operated by Polferries with the current crew, timetables and under the Polferries brand.

WAWEL accommodates 1,000 passengers, has cabins for overnight crossings and 1,490 lane metre freight capacity. There are departures every day from Swinoujscie at 14:00 and from Ystad at 22:30.

“DFDS has an extensive route network in the Baltic, but no routes to Poland. We are therefore delighted to enter into this collaboration agreement with an experienced Polish operator, which gives us contact with the large and important Polish transport market,” says Peder Gellert Pedersen, Executive Vice President, DFDS A/S.

“We are very satisfied with the collaboration agreement with DFDS as it provides us with a solid platform for further development. Also, due to its strong transport network in and around the Baltic, it gives us the necessary boost within the market. We are also delighted that our experienced and loyal crew members have been an important argument in the negotiations with DFDS. DFDS already employs Polish crew members on other routes,” says Jan Warchol, chairman of the board, Polferries.

Polferries/PZB has its head office in Kolobrzeg in Poland and runs a total of four ships on the routes Swinoujscie-Ystad, Gdansk-Nynäshamn (near Stockholm in Sweden) and Swinoujscie-Copenhagen, where the ship is handled at the DFDS Terminal.

DFDS, with its head office in Copenhagen, operates 60 freight and passenger vessels in the Baltic, North Sea and Irish Sea. In the Baltic DFDS operates the routes Karlshamn- Klaipeda, Kiel-Klaipeda, Lübeck-Riga, Fredericia-Copenhagen-Klaipeda, Sassnitz-Baltijsk/Klaipeda and Kiel-St. Petersburg.

Further information:

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DFDS – a leading sea-based transport network in northern Europe. DFDS has around 4,400 employees and employs a fleet of around 60 ships. DFDS was founded in 1866 and is listed on OMX The Nordic Stock Exchange Copenhagen.