

Introducing COLUMBIA Cruise Services



Over the years and in particular with the new contracts awarded in 2014 the maritime leisure industry has become an important sector of COLUMBIA's shipmanagement portfolio. Considering that cruise vessels, passenger cruise vessels and mega yachts serve specific purposes that need to be catered for specifically Schoeller Holdings group management decided to establish a new company focussing solely on this demanding and growing industry.

COLUMBIA Cruise Services (CCS) was founded in 2014 and started operations out of Hamburg, Germany, in January 2015. "CCS offers the full range of services required to achieve long-lasting customer satisfaction: technical, operational, crew, hospitality and project management", says its Director Olaf Groeger. "With 30 years of hands-on experience we want to be the industry's first choice partner in managing cruise vessels, expedition passenger vessels and mega yachts".

Mastering complexity

Challenges are multi-faceted as modern cruise vessels feature high-tech entertainment and communication facilities. Ship managers must not only master the complete portfolio of technical and operational challenges, they also have to comply with increasingly stricter safety, health, hygiene and environmental requirements. To stay ahead of developments and ensure a smooth sailing CCS provides specifically designed training programmes for deck, engine and hotel crew.

Key service areas

Technical topics such as engine performance, energy efficiency, permanent and preventive maintenance are jointly monitored by engineers on board and ship management teams ashore. Detailed budgeting and reporting

procedures allow equally detailed cost analysis and extras such as carbon footprint analysis per passenger.

Equally important CCS ensures competitiveness, efficiency and cost-effective operations around the world – from voyage optimization to itinerary planning to supervision of all port related activities.

COLUMBIA's worldwide network of crewing offices and agencies allows for selecting and recruiting the highest standard of seafarers as well as hotel staff that best meets clients' requirements. CCS also provides the whole range of hospitality services – custom made for all market segments.

Last but not least, clients can take advantage of COLUMBIA's extensive expertise in new building supervision, dry dockings and consulting projects such as feasibility studies, risk assessments, insurance coverage plus interior design of restaurants, bars and theatres.

For mega yacht owners CCS oversees new builds, refits and conversion projects. It also ensures yachts are always fit for service, well equipped and ready to sail.

Fully transparent

"Our experience shows that working closely together with our customers in a more collaborative partnership eases the decision-making process and leads to better results. Therefore all our services are fully transparent allowing our clients to audit us in every detail at any given time – offline and online" explains Olaf Groeger.

For more information click here:
www.columbia-cs.com