

February 28, 2012

The Manager
Listing Department
The Bombay Stock Exchange Limited
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers
Dalal Street
Mumbai – 400 001
Fax: +91 22 2272 2082/3132
BSE Code: 533704

Essar Shipping Limited

Essar House
11 K. K. Marg
Mahalaxmi
Mumbai 400 034
India

T +91 22 6660 1100 / 4001 1100
F +91 22 2354 4312
www.essar.com

The Manger
Listing Department
National Stock Exchange of India Limited
“Exchange Plaza”
Bandra Kurla Complex
Bandra (E)
Mumbai – 400 051
Fax: +91 22 2659 8237/38
NSE Code: ESSARSHPNG

The Manger
Wholesale Debt Market
National Stock Exchange of India Limited
“Exchange Plaza”
Bandra Kurla Complex
Bandra (E)
Mumbai – 400 051
Fax: +91 22 2659 8237/38

Sirs,

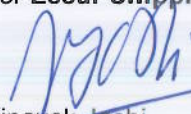
Sub: Press Release

As per Clause 36 of the Listing Agreement, we attach herewith a copy of the Press Release for Immediate Dissemination from your Exchange/s.

Request you to kindly take the same on record and acknowledge the same.

Yours faithfully

For Essar Shipping Limited


Vinayak Joshi
Company Secretary

Encl: a/a





Press Release

- Essar Shipping inducts its second MiniCape Vessel into its operating fleet. This is part of the USD 1 billion capex to acquire 12 vessels and two Jackup rigs
- MV Arun is the MiniCape bulk carrier vessel built at STX Dalian Shipyard, delivered after MV Kamlesh, which was inducted in the Essar fleet last month. The vessel is modern, efficient and environment friendly
- She is the second vessel in a series of Six that ESL will induct into the fleet in next four months
- After acquiring all the 12 vessels the DWT will go up to 2.6 million tonnes from 1.71 million tonnes making Essar Shipping among the top 2 private sector shipping companies in India
- Essar Shipping is one of the largest private sector shipping companies in India; owning the largest fleet of Capesize vessels

Mumbai, February 28 2012: Essar Shipping Limited (ESL) part of the Essar Group has, taken the delivery of MV "Arun". This newest addition to Essar Shipping's growing fleet, MV Arun, is a Mini Cape which is 253 metre long, 43 metre wide and has a cargo capacity of 105000 dwt. Essar Shipping has a total capex plan of USD 1 billion out of which USD 600 million is for acquiring 12 vessels and approx. USD 450 million for acquiring two jack up rigs.

On taking delivery of second Mini cape, Mr **A. R. Ramakrishnan- Managing Director, Essar Shipping Limited** said, "The delivery of second Mini Cape further strengthens our fleet. This is in line with our plan to acquire vessels that carry larger parcels at economic costs and suits Indian conditions. In line with its policy to acquire vessels backed by cargo, MV Arun has already been deployed for transportation of coal from Australia."

With its uniquely designed hull to ensure larger carrying capacity with minimal draft requirements, ESL is confident that these uniquely designed MiniCape vessels will make trade to the Indian coast more economical and cost effective for clients in the Power, Steel and other core sectors

The vessel is fully compliant with International Maritime regulations in force as on date. **ESL** is proud to include this modern, efficient and environment friendly Mini Cape vessel in its growing fleet of Bulk Carriers.

Essar Shipping continues to serve its customers efficiently with a fleet comprising of VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) tankers, Capesize vessels, Supramaxes, mini bulk carriers and



other lighterage & transshipment assets. The fleet capacity will rise significantly to 2.6 million DWT after completion of induction of all the 12 vessels.

About Essar Shipping

Essar Shipping Limited has a diversified fleet of 25 vessels, including VLCCs, Capesizes, Supramaxes, mini bulk carriers and tugs. The company has placed orders for 12 new ships, which are expected to join the fleet over the next 24 months. A sizeable part of the capacity is deployed on long-term contracts and COAs, insulating the company from the volatility of spot markets.

The Oilfields Services business provides contract drilling services to oil & gas companies across the globe. This business owns one semi-submersible rig and 12 land rigs. The company has ordered two new jack-up rigs, which will be joining the fleet over the next 18 months.

The Logistics business provides end-to-end logistics services – from ships to ports, lighterage services to plants, intra-plant logistics and dispatching finished products to the final customer. This business owns transshipment assets to provide lighterage support services, and onshore & offshore logistics services. It manages a fleet of over 5,000 trucks for inland transportation of steel and petroleum products.

About Essar Group

The Essar Group is a multinational conglomerate and a leading player in the sectors of Steel, Energy, Infrastructure and Services. With operations in more than 25 countries across five continents, the Group employs 75,000 people, and has revenues of USD 17 billion.

For Media Queries

Manish Kedia, Sr. VP – Corporate Affairs, Essar Group, +91 98197 30092,
manish.kedia@essar.com

Jatin Aggarwal, DGM-Corporate Communications, Essar Group, +91 99301 36303,
jatin.aggarwal@essar.com