

Alfa Laval's PureBallast 2500 for *Stena DrillMAX ICE*

Alfa Laval has received the first order for its chemical-free PureBallast 2500 system, the largest version of the system, to be installed aboard the Arctic drillship *Stena DrillMAX ICE*.

Featuring a flow rate of 2,500 m³/h, the PureBallast 2500 system will provide more than double the capacity of any previous PureBallast version. This makes it not only the largest PureBallast system, but also one of the largest ballast water treatment systems of any kind to be sold.

The order, which places Alfa Laval among just a handful of suppliers able to supply large-capacity treatment, comes from Samsung Heavy Industries on behalf of Stena Drilling. The PureBallast system will be delivered in June 2010 to the Geøje shipyard, where it will be installed aboard the arctic drillship *Stena DrillMAX ICE*. This high-profile newbuild combines the successful DrillMAX concept with demanding ice-class requirements.

As the first dynamically positioned, dual-mast drillship with ice-class certification, the *Stena DrillMAX ICE* represents a large and important investment for Stena Drilling, a wholly owned subsidiary of Stena. Alfa Laval claims that this is a key reason why the purchase of a PureBallast system makes economic sense today, even when ballast water treatment requirements have not yet entered into force.

The *Stena DrillMAX ICE* is a specialised and expensive vessel, which makes every hour of operation crucial. Stena decided not to wait to install a ballast water treatment system until regulations are in place, as this would mean taking the drillship out of service and placing it back in the dry dock. In such an event, the cost of the retrofit would be not only the cost of the equipment, but also the cost of the downtime.

With a PureBallast treatment system installed from the beginning, the company says that it can plan the operations of the *Stena DrillMAX ICE* well into the future, regardless of when IMO's ballast water



Stena DrillMAX ICE

treatment regulations become law.

"For Alfa Laval, the order of a PureBallast 2500 for the *Stena DrillMAX ICE* represents a combination of firsts," says Peter Carlberg, general manager of Alfa Laval Marine & Diesel. "As well as being the first order for our largest PureBallast system, it represents our first PureBallast delivery to the Stena fleet. This makes it yet another positive step in Alfa Laval's long-term cooperation with Stena."

Samsung Heavy Industries will be installing PureBallast for the first time aboard the *Stena DrillMAX ICE*. "While we've supplied Samsung Heavy Industries extensively in the past, there was naturally a period of careful evaluation before PureBallast

was selected," says Carlberg. "Today we can say with pride that PureBallast lives up to their high expectations."

The high-capacity order for the *Stena DrillMAX ICE* is, however, not the only new order with ties to the oil industry. Alfa Laval has also recently sold eight PureBallast 250 systems for delivery to Universal Shipbuilding Corporation, which will install them aboard eight offshore supply vessels for Sanko Line, one of Japan's oldest shipping companies.

PureBallast, which was developed in cooperation with Wallenius Water, has now been adopted by a wide range of fleets and has been selected for 79 vessels of varying types and capacities.