

## **Rickmers Group signs up to ShipServ**

*Leading German / Singapore based shipmanagement company and container vessel operator signs up to use ShipServ's suite of e-procurement decision support tools*

**Hamburg / Singapore, September 17, 2014.** ShipServ, the leading marine and offshore e-marketplace, has built further on its trusted position among shipowners and ship managers with the signing of Rickmers Shipmanagement, part of the Rickmers Group at the SMM Exhibition.

With offices in Hamburg and Singapore, Rickmers Shipmanagement is currently responsible for the technical management of about 100 vessels, including 52 of its own vessels and 12 Apollo & Rickmers Group JV vessels.

The Hamburg-based shipmanager chose ShipServ on the strength of its ability to increase transaction speeds and improve purchasing efficiency.

Rickmers will connect to ShipServ via its DNV GL Ship Manager procurement software.

Michael Schroder , VP of Sales of ShipServ said:

“We are delighted to welcome such a prestigious ship manager such as Rickmers and to provide them with the ability to enhance their procurement process and save both time and money.”

Bjoern Sprotte, Global Head of Maritime Services for Rickmers, said:

“With the service that ShipServ provides we are able to improve purchasing efficiency and we look forward to a successful partnership. ”

ShipServ has a number of leading German ship managers and shipowners using their platform and services including E.R. Schiffahrt , F. Laeisz, NSB, Reederei Claus-Peter Offen and Alpha Shipmanagement.

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**From L –R:**

**Bjoern Sprotte, Global Head of Maritime Services, Rickmers Group, Michael Schroder, VP of Sales, ShipServ, Nikola Matovic, Senior Procurement, Executive, Rickmers Group and Saurish Nandi, Global Head of Procurement, Rickmers Group.**



## About Rickmers Group

With its Head Offices in Hamburg, Germany, and Singapore the Rickmers Group is a well-established, international service provider for the shipping industry as well as for shipowners and shipping lines.

Its international structure comprises over 20 offices and more than 50 agents worldwide. The Rickmers Group's business activities are grouped into three segments: Maritime Assets, Maritime Services and the Rickmers Line. The Group employs about 2,800 people at sea and ashore and controls a fleet of more than 100 ships, thereof 52 own.

In the Maritime Assets segment the Rickmers Group is active as Asset Manager for its own vessels and also for those of third parties. Rickmers initiates and coordinates shipping projects, organises financing and acquires, charters and sells ships. In the Maritime Services business segment the Rickmers Group provides shipmanagement services for the Rickmers Group's own vessels as well as for those owned by third parties; these services comprise technical and operational management, crewing, newbuild supervision, consultancy and insurance-related services. In the Rickmers Line business segment the Rickmers Group operates as a shipping line for breakbulk, heavy lift and project cargo, and additionally offers individual voyages.

## About ShipServ

ShipServ is an e-marketplace that connects buyers in the marine industry (shipowners, managers, yards and oil rigs) with over 52,000 suppliers of spares, stores and anything else that is used on a ship.

In 2014, ShipServ will facilitate close to \$3bn of annual trade from over 200 buying companies managing over 8500 vessels and trading with over 52,000 suppliers in over 100 countries around the world.

For buyers, ShipServ works with existing ship management software and helps shipowners, managers and yards to reduce vessel operating costs by enabling seamless trading with maritime suppliers globally.

Users report up to 10% savings on operational spend by using tools such as ShipServ Match – a new automated supplier recommendation service – and a 30% reduction in the procurement department workload, along with the benefits of complete transparency that comes from all communication being captured in a standard format.

For suppliers: ShipServ offers an effective way to sell and market in the marine industry.

For more information visit: [www.shipserv.com](http://www.shipserv.com). To find out more about ShipServ Match visit [www.shipserv.com/info/save-time-and-money-with-tradenet/what-is-shipserv-match/](http://www.shipserv.com/info/save-time-and-money-with-tradenet/what-is-shipserv-match/)

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