

PRESS RELEASE

To : Press & Media
From : Kotug Smit Towage | Annet van Brussel | Communications & PR Manager | www.kotugsmit.eu
Date : 14th September 2018

Kotug Smit Towage performs naming ceremony for tug 'Southampton'

On 13th September 2018, the naming ceremony of the newly-built Damen tug 'Southampton' took place in the Port of Zeebrugge.

Kotug Smit Towage has taken four newly-built Damen tugs into service for its European harbour towage activities, in 2017 and 2018. One of this quartet, the 'Southampton' is currently operating in the Port of Zeebrugge.

The 'Southampton' is an ASD Tug 2913 and has a bollard pull in excess of 80 tonnes. The tug is renowned for its manoeuvrability and environmentally efficient performance. The naming ceremony of the tug 'Southampton' was performed by Lady Sponsor Mrs. Ariane Labarque, the spouse of Mr. Rik Goetinck, Vice President of the Port of Zeebrugge (MBZ).



Naming ceremony tug 'Southampton', performed by Mrs Ariane Labarque

Kotug Smit's General Manager Scheldt Area, Geert Vandecappelle: *"As a token of our appreciation for the many years of cooperation between MBZ and Kotug Smit Towage, formerly URS, we invited Lady Sponsor Mrs Ariane Labarque to perform the naming ceremony of our tug Southampton. We are grateful for her commitment".*

About Kotug Smit Towage

Kotug Smit Towage was established on 7th April 2016, following the merger of the European harbour towage services of KOTUG (part of Kotug International) and SMIT (subsidiary of Boskalis). It is a leading provider of harbour towage services in north-western Europe, operating in 12 ports in Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands and The United Kingdom. Kotug Smit's high quality services meet the required operational and safety standards in the maritime industry, enabling them to achieve a leading position in the European ports. www.kotugsmit.eu