

MEDIA RELEASE

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TT-LINE COMPANY PTY LTD SET TO ORDER NEW SHIPS

TT-Line Company Pty Ltd is set to order two new ships to replace the current Spirit of Tasmania vessels by 2021.

While they will be a similar roll on / roll off design to Spirit of Tasmania I and II, the new ships will have substantially larger capacity for passengers, passenger vehicles and freight.

TT-Line chairman Mike Grainger said the Board and the executive team of the company had worked closely with the Tasmanian Government on vessel replacement through the Ships Replacement Sub-Committee of Cabinet, chaired by the Minister for Infrastructure, Rene Hidding, and including Premier Will Hodgman and Treasurer Peter Gutwein.

"The company has carefully assessed vessel types and fleet configurations over the past several years to determine the most appropriate vessel to operate daily crossings on Bass Strait," he said.

"We looked at capacity, customer expectations, operating speed, seakeeping properties for Bass Strait, capital and operating costs and operational efficiency.

"Further, independent expert industry modelling for future demand for travel on the Spirits projected a continuation of strong passenger and freight growth.

"We are obviously very pleased that the government has accepted our business case and look forward to finalising the contracts for this significant infrastructure investment which will facilitate the strong growth in our key tourism and freight markets."

Mr Grainger said he expected the order for the new vessels would be placed in the first half of the 2018 calendar year and delivered in time to commence operations on Bass Strait by 2021.

"The company has short listed a number of international shipyards to build the new purpose-built vessels," he said.

"While there are no Australian shipyards with the capacity to build the new monohull Spirits, the vessels will feature the best of Tasmanian products in the fit-out."

TT-Line is planning ahead for changes to international regulations on ship emissions to ensure the company is fully compliant.

"The new Spirits will be designed to run on dual fuel, including liquefied natural gas, which will comply with all international regulations," Mr Grainger said.

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VESSEL REPLACEMENT BUSINESS CASE

1. Vessel Design















2. Principal dimensions

	Current Vessels	New Vessels
Length Overall (Metres)	194.00	212.00
Beam (Metres)	25.00	31.50
Draught design (Metres)	6.55	7.00
Service Speed (Knots)	27.50	27.00

3. Capacities (preliminary)

	Current Vessels	New Vessels	% Increase
Deadweight (tons)	4,967	6,500	31%
Lane metres (trailers)	1,813	2,519	39%
Lane metres (pax)	406 + 599 hoistable car decks	1,316 + 398 hoistable car decks	71%
Cabins	220	284	29%
Recliners (including business recliners)	121	195	61%
Max pax – night	731	1,000	37%
Max pax – day (seats)	1,300	1,800	38%
Public Areas (sqm)	2,700	4,000	48%
Buffet	303	508	67%
Max Pax	1,400	2,000	43%