

PRESS RELEASE

Hamburg, 24 May 2022

Hapag-Lloyd turns 175 years old

On 27 May 1847 – or 175 years ago – a group of shipowners and merchants founded the Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt-Actien-Gesellschaft (Hapag) in Hamburg. Then, it was not until 1970 that Hapag-Lloyd AG emerged from Hapag’s merger with Bremen-based North German Lloyd. Further acquisitions followed, such as those of Canadian Pacific (2005), CSAV (2014), UASC (2017), NileDutch (2021) and the intended incorporation of the container liner business of DAL (2022). Today, Hapag-Lloyd is the fifth-largest container liner shipping company in the world and the largest shipping company in Germany.

“Our anniversary fills us with great pride,” said Rolf Habben Jansen, CEO of Hapag-Lloyd AG. “As with many long-established companies, our history has also been characterised by constant change and innovation. Hapag, which initially sailed the Atlantic with just a single sailing ship beginning in 1848, has today become a renowned and internationally active logistics company serving almost all of the world’s major ports.”

When it was founded in 1847, the company’s main field of business was transporting mail and passengers, especially emigrants headed to North America. Cargo initially only played a secondary role. Director-General Albert Ballin (1857-1918) transformed Hapag into the largest shipping line in the world, invented cruising, and led the emigration business in Hamburg to great heights. Although the shipping company had lost practically its entire fleet in the two world wars, it managed to re-establish itself in both cases.

The company is commemorating 175 years of transformation with a range of activities throughout the year, including a scholarly conference, a party for employees in Hamburg, and a congress. “Hapag-Lloyd has every reason to celebrate – but also to be grateful,” Habben Jansen added.

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“Thanks are due to our more than 14,000 employees around the world, our customers, our shareholders and everyone who has played a part in helping Hapag-Lloyd to stay on course and to successfully weather even the most difficult times over the past 175 years.”

Information on the history of Hapag-Lloyd:

[“Shipping made in Hamburg – The history of Hapag-Lloyd”](#).

Historical images of Hapag-Lloyd for download [here](#).

Press contacts

Nils.Haupt@hlag.com +49 40 3001 – 2263

Tim.Seifert@hlag.com +49 40 3001 - 2291

About Hapag-Lloyd

With a fleet of 248 modern container ships and a total transport capacity of 1.8 million TEU, Hapag-Lloyd is one of the world's leading liner shipping companies. The Company has around 14,000 employees and 418 offices in 137 countries. Hapag-Lloyd has a container capacity of approximately 3.0 million TEU – including one of the largest and most modern fleets of reefer containers. A total of 123 liner services worldwide ensure fast and reliable connections between more than 600 ports on all the continents. Hapag-Lloyd is one of the leading operators in the Transatlantic, Middle East, Latin America and Intra-America trades.

Disclaimer

This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Such statements are based on a number of assumptions, estimates, projections or plans that are inherently subject to significant risks, uncertainties and contingencies. Actual results can differ materially from those anticipated in the Company's forward-looking statements.

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