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KSPG AG

High-duty large-diameter pistons at Marintec China

Marintec, the maritime trade show, is being staged in Shanghai, China, from December 3 to 6, 2013, and for the fifth time now KS Kolbenschmidt GmbH is exhibiting at the German Pavilion. The company, which only recently opened a large-bore piston plant in Kunshan, is thus emphasizing the significance of its presence on the Asian market.

"Our aim at Marintec China is to cultivate existing customer ties, forge new ones, and generally boost awareness of our company in the Asian market. At the same time, we want to have talks with potential suppliers of the upstream blanks," says Wolfgang Hartmann, head of Large-Bore Pistons at KS Kolbenschmidt. It was only in October 2013 that the company had opened its new large-bore piston plant in Kunshan. Hartmann adds, "Our Kunshan location is not least of all bolstering the growth strategy in the booming Chinese market whose strategic importance for us we are underscoring with our presence at Marintec."

The products being displayed by KS Kolbenschmidt for its Asian customers include pistons with a diameter of up to 350 mm, mainly marine pistons installed in the main propulsion or auxiliary power-generating engines of small and midsize vessels. Also on show are pistons for locomotive engines.

KS Kolbenschmidt's large-bore pistons are installed in the main propulsion and auxiliary engines of well-known cruise liners (such as *Allure of the Seas*), as well as container and freight vessels. Power plant pistons are also among the lineup. At present, the company is supplying efficient piston solutions that comply with IMO II maritime emission standards as well as other such regulations adopted by numerous nations. IMO II requires a significant reduction in NO_x emissions in the maritime sector. In fact, KS Kolbenschmidt is already working on ways to address the next tier, IMO III.

KS Kolbenschmidt GmbH belongs to the KSPG Group, an international first-tier auto-industry supplier, with 36 locations in Europe, the Americas, Japan, India, and China, and sales of over €2.3 billion in 2012. Around the world, more than 12,000

employees develop and manufacture components, systems, and modules for engines.

Marintec China, considered to be Asia's largest maritime trade show, had over 50,000 visitors in 2011 and more than 1,600 exhibitors.