



## PONANT successfully completes 1<sup>st</sup> LNG bunkering operation in France on *Le Commandant Charcot*



**On 24 September 2021 in Le Havre, the first Ship to Ship liquefied natural gas (LNG) bunkering operation in France was successfully completed on *Le Commandant Charcot* in partnership with Gasum, LNG bunkering pioneer.**

*Le Commandant Charcot* has been eco-designed to employ the latest green technologies, starting with liquefied natural gas (LNG), the cleanest fuel available today. It took six years to design and build this prototype of a ship that is the first of its kind. Since her delivery on 29 July 2021, the first LNG bunkering operation took place on 25 August in partnership with Gasum in Norway. On 24 September 2021 the second LNG bunkering was completed, this time in Le Havre in France.

*“These LNG bunkering operations are the culmination of several years of analysis, engineering and trials to find the safest and most efficient way to perform this operation. The ship reached the geographic North Pole for the first time on 6 September 2021, using liquefied natural gas throughout the long voyage. We are completely satisfied and particularly proud of the technical innovations developed on this ship which have enabled us to achieve such outstanding results in terms of performance,”* said Hervé Gastinel, CEO of PONANT.

*Le Commandant Charcot* is the first passenger vessel to have high-pressure LNG membrane tanks installed, providing the ship with up to two months autonomy on natural gas, plus impressive bunkering and operational flexibility, and guaranteeing an even higher standard of safety. It paves the way for new natural gas propulsion methods that are more respectful of the environment and help meet CO2 reduction targets set by the Paris Agreement.

Minimising the environmental impact of its business is a priority for PONANT, and LNG is currently the most eco-friendly marine fuel available. Switching to this energy source totally eliminates SOx emissions and reduces NOx emissions by 85%. LNG also emits 20% less CO2 compared to conventional marine fuels.

## ABOUT PONANT

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Created in 1988, by officers of the French Merchant Navy, PONANT has created a new style of cruising, under the French flag, through a unique conception of sea travel and a commitment to promoting sustainable and responsible tourism. Accessing exceptional territories aboard yachts featuring refined design, on which the art of living and excellent cuisine take pride of place: such is the promise of a unique and authentic PONANT voyage.

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