News Release

Singapore, 24 February 2015 | For immediate release

Swire Bulk Logistics enters into partnership with Fletcher Building in New Zealand

1 Swire Bulk Logistics, the industrial shipping division of The China Navigation Company (CNCo), has entered into a long term partnership with New Zealand’s Golden Bay Cement (GBC), a trading division of Fletcher Building Limited, to build, own and operate a dedicated, self-discharging cement carrier.

2 Chris Blake, Country Manager, CNCo, said, “CNCo aims to build winning, sustainable and long-term relationships with our customers. This partnership reinforces CNCo’s commitment to developing New Zealand’s coastal shipping industry, and is critical in supporting the country’s infrastructural development.”

3 Richard Barnes, Supply Chain Manager, GBC, commented, “As part of Golden Bay’s long term commitment to New Zealand manufacture and distribution of cement, we are pleased to be working with Swire in this long term partnership. We recognise the expertise and resources that Swire brings to the partnership will complement our existing distribution capability and increase the flexibility in our supply chain, strengthening the overall service to our customers nationwide.”

4 The 9,000 deadweight (dwt) vessel, named Aotearoa Chief, to be built at China’s Jinling shipyard, is specifically designed to operate on the New Zealand coast, with a view to optimising supply chain efficiency. The design incorporates innovative marine technologies and will meet the latest environmental standards.
5 The vessel is expected to commence operations in late 2016. She will operate under the New Zealand flag, and ply the New Zealand coast between the loading port of Portland and GBC’s distribution centres in Auckland, Tauranga, Napier, Wellington, as well as expanded services to New Plymouth and Picton.

6 Upon completion, Aotearoa Chief will become CNCo’s first self-discharging cement carrier. In recent years, CNCo has invested in a modern, fuel efficient fleet of multipurpose liner vessels and bulk carriers to meet the demands of the New Zealand market. 17 vessels have been delivered over the past 18 months and another 23 are scheduled for delivery over the next two years, representing a strong commitment to the New Zealand maritime sector.

7 CNCo’s first regular shipping service to New Zealand was established in 1883. Its New Zealand operation now includes five independent multipurpose liner shipping services connecting New Zealand to Asia, Australia, the Pacific Islands and the West Coast North America.

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About The China Navigation Company Pte. Ltd. (CNCo):
CNCo is the wholly owned, deep-sea ship owning and operating arm of the multi-national Swire Group. CNCo was founded in 1872 in Shanghai and started its operations trading on China’s Yangtze River. Since then the company has expanded globally while its primary operational focus remains in the Asia-Pacific region. The company operates a global network of multipurpose liner services for the transportation of containerised, break-bulk, heavy lift and project cargoes in addition to providing dry bulk and bulk logistics services on a worldwide basis, through its three core operating divisions - Swire Shipping, Swire Bulk and Swire Bulk Logistics.

About Swire Bulk Logistics:
Swire Bulk Logistics is the industrial shipping division of CNCo. Deploying purpose built vessels, Swire Bulk Logistics specialises in the handling of dry bulk materials at sea, including floating transhipment vessels and intermediate supply chain solutions, to provide value added services for our customers. Together with CNCo’s other operating divisions, Swire Bulk and Swire Shipping, the division offers a global network of experience to provide innovative marine supply chain solutions for our customers, through long-term partnerships.

For more information on CNCo and Swire Bulk Logistics, please visit www.chinanav.com.

About Golden Bay Cement
Golden Bay Cement is New Zealand’s largest cement manufacturer, operating from its Portland, Whangarei facility. Golden Bay Cement is committed to sustainable performance and in recent years has been awarded for its increasing use of renewable wood fuel as a source of energy, significantly reducing its carbon emissions and energy use. Since 1988, Golden Bay Cement has been 100% owned by Fletcher Building Limited, one of New Zealand’s largest domiciled international companies.

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