

## WFW ADVISES MSC ON FINANCING FOR TWO NEW LNG-POWERED CRUISE SHIPS

18 APRIL 2024 • PRESS



**Watson Farley & Williams (“WFW”) has advised MSC Cruises (“MSC”) on the financing for two new LNG-powered cruise ships from French ship builder Chantiers de l’Atlantique. The vessels, *World Class 3* and *World Class 4*, are expected to be delivered in 2026 and 2027 respectively. The financing was provided by a syndicate of lenders led by Banco Santander with ECA support from Bpifrance Export Assurance.**

In line with MSC’s commitment to investing in future environmental technology and its aims to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, the vessels will be fitted with some of the latest innovative and technological solutions to maximise energy efficiency and lower their carbon footprints. This includes extensive use of heat recovery, shore power plug-in connectivity to reduce carbon emissions in port, the most advanced wastewater treatment systems, new advances in waste management and a comprehensive range of onboard energy efficient equipment to optimise engine use. Additionally, the ships will be prepared for a variety of alternative fuels including bio and synthetic methane and green methanol. They will also be fitted with next generation dual fuel internal combustion engines with reduced methane slip.

The WFW London Assets and Structured Finance team that advised MSC was led by Partner Emily Widdrington, supported by Senior Associate John Man and Associate Lottie Lymer.

Emily commented: “We are delighted to have been able to advise long-standing client MSC on successfully financing these new additions to their fleet which will play a key role in their decarbonisation plans to achieve net-zero by 2050. Being instructed on this deal also highlights WFW’s expertise in advising on big-ticket financings in the cruise sector”.

**Watson Farley & Williams (“WFW”) has advised MSC Cruises (“MSC”) on the financing for two new LNG-powered cruise ships from French ship builder Chantiers de l’Atlantique. The vessels, *World Class 3* and *World Class 4*, are expected to be delivered in 2026 and 2027 respectively. The financing was provided by a syndicate of lenders led by Banco Santander with ECA support from Bpifrance Export Assurance.**

# WATSON FARLEY & WILLIAMS

In line with MSC's commitment to investing in future environmental technology and its aims to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, the vessels will be fitted with some of the latest innovative and technological solutions to maximise energy efficiency and lower their carbon footprints. This includes extensive use of heat recovery, shore power plug-in connectivity to reduce carbon emissions in port, the most advanced wastewater treatment systems, new advances in waste management and a comprehensive range of onboard energy efficient equipment to optimise engine use.

Additionally, the ships will be prepared for a variety of alternative fuels including bio and synthetic methane and green methanol. They will also be fitted with next generation dual fuel internal combustion engines with reduced methane slip.

The WFW London Assets and Structured Finance team that advised MSC was led by Partner [Emily Widdrington](#), supported by Senior Associate [John Man](#) and Associate [Lottie Lymer](#).

Emily commented: "We are delighted to have been able to advise long-standing client MSC on successfully financing these new additions to their fleet which will play a key role in their decarbonisation plans to achieve net-zero by 2050. Being instructed on this deal also highlights WFW's expertise in advising on big-ticket financings in the cruise sector".

## RELATED CONTACTS



**EMILY WIDDRINGTON**  
PARTNER • LONDON

T: +44 20 7863 8937

[ewiddrington@wfw.com](mailto:ewiddrington@wfw.com)



**JOHN MAN**  
SENIOR ASSOCIATE • LONDON

T: +44 20 7814 8160

[jman@wfw.com](mailto:jman@wfw.com)



**LOTTIE LYMER**  
ASSOCIATE • LONDON

T: +44 0207 814 8159

[LLymer@wfw.com](mailto:LLymer@wfw.com)

## MEDIA ENQUIRIES



**WILL SALOMONE**

T: +44 20 3036 9847

[media@wfw.com](mailto:media@wfw.com)

# WATSON FARLEY & WILLIAMS

## DISCLAIMER

Watson Farley & Williams is a sector specialist international law firm with a focus on the energy, infrastructure and transport sectors. With offices in Athens, Bangkok, Dubai, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hanoi, Hong Kong, London, Madrid, Milan, Munich, New York, Paris, Rome, Seoul, Singapore, Sydney and Tokyo our 700+ lawyers work as integrated teams to provide practical, commercially focussed advice to our clients around the world.

All references to 'Watson Farley & Williams', 'WFW' and 'the firm' in this document mean Watson Farley & Williams LLP and/or its affiliated entities. Any reference to a 'partner' means a member of Watson Farley & Williams LLP, or a member, partner, employee or consultant with equivalent standing and qualification in WFW Affiliated Entities. A list of members of Watson Farley & Williams LLP and their professional qualifications is open to inspection on request.

Watson Farley & Williams LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC312252. It is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and its members are solicitors or registered foreign lawyers.

The information provided in this publication (the "Information") is for general and illustrative purposes only and it is not intended to provide advice whether that advice is financial, legal, accounting, tax or any other type of advice, and should not be relied upon in that regard. While every reasonable effort is made to ensure that the Information provided is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to the accuracy, timeliness, completeness, validity or currency of the Information and WFW assume no responsibility to you or any third party for the consequences of any errors or omissions. To the maximum extent permitted by law, WFW shall not be liable for indirect or consequential loss or damage, including without limitation any loss or damage whatsoever arising from any use of this publication or the Information.

This publication constitutes attorney advertising.