



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### ***MS MIDNATSOL, THE FLAGSHIP OF THE HURTIGRUTEN FLEET, NOW CONNECTED***

Grimstad/ Tromsø, 20 January 2006: Maritime Communications Partner AS (MCP) has signed a contract with Troms Fylkes Dampskibsselskap ASA (TFDS) to deliver GSM and SMS services on board their flagship MS Midnatsol and MS Trollfjord. The service was introduced on board the MS Midnatsol just in time for a spectacular 3 month cruise in the Mediterranean, during which time she will also act as a luxury floating hotel at the Olympic Games in Turin in February.

The service enables passengers and crew on board the MS Midnatsol to make and receive calls and SMS using their own mobile phones and phone numbers. The ship which ordinarily sails from Bergen to Kirkenes, one of the northernmost ports in Norway, offers breathtaking views of beautiful, remote fjord landscapes, while still enabling those on board to call home.

For the passengers, the mobile services are transparent, readily available on their own personal mobile phone, and will operate seamlessly through MCP's network in the same way as when travelling abroad. The customers are charged by their home operator through normal invoicing routines.

#### ***About Maritime Communications Partner AS:***

MCP is the global maritime cellular operator focused on providing cost effective GSM and CDMA communications solutions specially created to fulfill the requirements of the shipping industry. MCP enables cell phone coverage by installing and operating the shipborne radio networks, linking the vessels with public networks via satellite. MCP operates its mobile services via roaming agreements with cellular operators throughout the world.

Through a partnership with MCP, the ship-owners benefit by providing a service in demand to their passengers, and thus enhancing their own competitiveness. MCP works in close cooperation with customers, providing unique business models based on revenue sharing and co-investments in the vessel's operational infrastructure.

MCP is a fully recognised international cellular operator which handles all legal and regulatory challenges associated with the unique technology and service solutions that it provides to its customers.

MCP's main share holders are Telenor ASA, Northzone Ventures IV KS and Ugland Invest Ltd.

For more information about MCP, please visit our website [www.cellatsea.com](http://www.cellatsea.com)

#### ***About TFDS ASA:***

TFDS ASA is one of Norway's largest domestic shipping companies with a fleet consisting of 38 ships. The operation of Hurtigruten coastal express is one of its main activities.

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