

KEH designs Australian icebreaker



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Knud E. Hansen is responsible for designing a new icebreaker to be delivered to the Australian Government in 2020. The last signature was scribbled on the contract the other day. The design has been a major task that has been several years in the making, says Finn Wollesen, CEO of Knud E. Hansen to Maritime Denmark.

"We designed it and developed the whole concept. DMS is one of our partners, and it is they who will be responsible for the operation of the ship," says Finn Wollesen.

The new ship will replace the rather old icebreaker Aurora Australis. The new icebreaker will be faster, have greater ice breaking capacity and greater cargo capacity. The new icebreaker will like Aurora Australis have base in Hobart, Tasmania, and will provide support to Australia's research stations in Antarctica.

It is not the first time that Knud E. Hansen lands a job in Australia. In fact, Knud E. Hansen has an office in Perth and has had several assignments in collaboration with DMS Maritime.

"We also have some other tasks right now, but we are not yet ready to publish anything regarding them," says Finn Wollesen.

He says that there is also a historical perspective on the task of the Australian icebreaker, as it was formerly Danish ships that sailed the Antarctic.

"Until 1987, it was Lauritzen, who had several ships that sailed for Australia, and I sailed with Nella Dan," says Finn Wollesen.

Apart from assignments in Australia, Knud E. Hansen works all over the world, and the company also has an office in Fort Lauderdale, USA, Greece and the Faroe Islands in addition to offices in Denmark and Australia.

"Right now shipping is going through a rough period, but it is the cruise industry that fills most for us. We produce designs for European and North American shipping companies," says Finn Wollesen.

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