

Press release

26 September 2023

## **Scandlines Germany officially received the first intermediate ROV class certificate without the presence of conventional divers**

The class was surveyed by Lloyd's Register and conducted by Stein Maritime Consulting in collaboration with Vesselity Maritime Analytics. The inspection took place using an underwater drone, a so-called remotely operated vehicle (ROV), which was manufactured in Norway by Blueye Robotics. The vessel inspected is a ferry with pod propulsion, operating between Germany and Denmark.

"The acceptance of ROV class services for pod vessels opens a whole new market for robotic inspection in the cruise, ferry and service ship market and reflects a huge step towards maritime digitalisation," said Michael Stein, the ROV pilot conducting the dive. According to him, unmanned class inspections can save 50 percent and more costs compared to conventional divers.

"I used a nine kg micro-ROV system, a tablet and a USB gaming controller to conduct a fully accepted class inspection in four hours alone with the surveyor. I am confident that the maritime industry will be open towards the economic benefits of ROV-based inspections and accept this new method."

"Scandlines understands the value of innovative approaches to advance the shipping industry into a safe and sustainable domain. The operation of unmanned systems allows us to keep track of our fleet status, regarding marine fouling and propulsion detrition. With drones, we can identify potential disturbances in advance before they negatively affect the energy efficiency of our vessels. We believe in the potential of robotics to maintain and to enhance the energy efficiency of our fleet and we are happy to be an early adopter of this emerging technology," said Adam Hartmut, Fleet Manager, and Manuel Martin, Senior Captain of Scandlines Germany.

### **About Scandlines**

*Scandlines is a modern and innovative ferry operator with a green vision for the future. We have a proud culture based on strong German-Danish cooperation and maritime history dating back to 1872.*

*Scandlines operates two ferry routes with high capacity and frequency. Six of our ferries are hybrid ferries, and two are furthermore fitted with an innovative rotor sail – and that contributes to making our ferries greener.*

*Our core business is to provide an efficient and reliable transport service for both passengers and freight customers. The focus for all our activities – on board the ferries as well as in our BorderShops – is to give our customers a great experience.*

*With 39,000 departures on seven ferries, Scandlines in 2022 transported close to 6.1 million passengers, 1.6 million cars and over 750,000 freight units on the routes Puttgarden-Rødby and Rostock-Gedser..*

Read more about Scandlines at [www.scandlines.com](http://www.scandlines.com). High-resolution press photos can be downloaded [here](#).

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