



## AMERICAN ROLL-ON ROLL-OFF CARRIER, LLC

One Maynard Drive, Park Ridge, NJ 07656 USA Phone: +1 201 307-1626 Web: [www.armacnet.com](http://www.armacnet.com)

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### ARC Introduces 9<sup>th</sup> Ship, Expands Middle East Service

American Roll-on Roll-off Carrier, LLC (ARC) has announced its purchase and reflag to the U.S.-flag fleet of the *M/V Endurance* (ex *Taronga*) as the 9<sup>th</sup> ship in its fleet. Upon entering service on 15 February 2010, *Endurance* will be the largest and most militarily-useful, multi-purpose Ro-Ro ship in the U.S.-flag commercial fleet.

American Roll-on Roll-off Carrier is the largest U.S.-flag Ro-Ro carrier, and the third largest U.S.-flag carrier overall operating in international trade. Founded in 1990, the company is headquartered in New Jersey with major satellite offices in Frankfurt, Dubai and Washington, DC. ARC operates a three-ship liner service between U.S. East Coast ports and ports in North Europe and the United Kingdom, and will now provide a five-ship liner service between U.S. East and Gulf Coast ports, transiting the Mediterranean, to the Middle East and South Asia.

The U.S. Maritime Administration, on behalf of the Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Transportation Command, on behalf of the Department of Defense, have approved the *M/V Endurance* to replace the *M/V Liberty* in the Maritime Security Program (MSP). The *Liberty*, which is currently on charter to Military Sealift Command (MSC), will remain under U.S.-flag. The Middle East liner service will then consist of five vessels on a 14-day frequency with one million square feet of stand-alone cargo capacity and over 10 million square feet of cargo capacity on an annualized round-trip basis. Regular ports of call in the region will include Alexandria, Jeddah, Ash Shuaybah, Umm Qasr, Karachi and Mumbai, with other ports served on an inducement basis.

The *M/V Endurance* was delivered by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries in December 1996 and is well-suited for high and heavy and project cargoes. She is a unique Ro-Ro vessel with no sister ships and is among the largest Ro-Ro vessels in the world at 860 feet in length. *Endurance* has nine decks that can be configured to carry over 260,000 sq ft of high and heavy cargo such as CH-47s, MRAPs, M-ATVs, tracked vehicles, construction equipment and generators; 130,000 sq ft of additional high-side vehicle (SUV) space; and approximately 200 containers. Her quarter ramp weight capacity of 320 tons exceeds that of any vessel in the U.S.-flag commercial fleet.

The Maritime Security Program is a federal maritime financial sustainment program that provides for a fleet of 60 modern U.S.-flagged and U.S.-crewed militarily-useful sealift assets operating in international trade. The MSP fleet enables the U.S. Government to provide sealift for U.S. armed forces utilizing the resources of the U.S.-flag commercial fleet. In addition, a U.S.-flagged commercial fleet operating in international trade enables the government to provide global economic and agricultural assistance programs, and provides the crews that are used to crew government reserve vessels in time of need. The MSP fleet provides this national security asset at a substantially lower cost than the government owning and maintaining an equivalent capability.



For additional information, please contact Eric Ebeling at [eebeling@amsigroup.com](mailto:eebeling@amsigroup.com).