

"HOS Iron Horse" launched at IHC Merwede shipyard

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IHC Merwede BV has launched the Multi Purpose Offshore Support Vessel *HOS Iron Horse* for Hornbeck Offshore Services LLC of Covington in Louisiana United States. In April 2007 IHC Merwede Offshore & Marine was granted the order to design and build the new Multi Purpose Offshore Support Vessel for Hornbeck Offshore Services. IHC Merwede Offshore & Marine was granted this order because of its ability to design and build a vessel including the integration of the complete owner furnished cranes and ROV installation within the required short delivery time.

The vessel, of which the keel was laid on 23rd of July 2008, will bear the name *HOS Iron Horse*. The naming of the vessel will take place upon delivery in the third quarter of 2009.

The *HOS Iron Horse* is a versatile vessel and suitable for worldwide operation. Hornbeck Offshore Services intends to use the vessel in first instance in the shallow waters of the Mexican Gulf. With her deepwater cranes, deck cranes and moonpool the vessel can be used in a wide range of offshore construction activities. But the vessel can also easily be adapted to a charterer's specific wishes and requirements. The moonpool facilitates subsea operations. Subsea operations can be supported by two work class ROVs which are housed in a hangar. The vessel is equipped with a 400-metric tonnes heave compensated mast crane capable of working at a 3,000-metres water depth and a 120-metric tonnes heave compensated offshore knuckle boom crane. Furthermore the vessel has a helicopter platform and accommodation for a crew of one hundred.

Main features:

Length overall	131,70 m
Length between perpendiculars	111,70 m
Breadth	22,00 m
Depth	9,50 m
Speed	13,00 kn
Deadweight	9,440 t
DP Class	3
Design draught	6,25 m
Scantling draught	6,75 m

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