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**LEYAL becomes the first ship recycling facility in Turkey
Certified to the IMO Hong Kong Convention on ship recycling
by Lloyd's Register**

LEYAL is a leading ship recycling company that continues to set the standard, with its facilities in Aliaga/Izmir becoming the first in Turkey to receive a Statement of Compliance to the IMO Hong Kong Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships. The assessment, verification and certification of the facilities was conducted by Lloyd's Register classification society during a six-month project that was concluded in June 2016.

The project was undertaken with the external assistance of ship recycling experts Sea2Cradle who worked with LEYAL for approximately 2 years, leading up to the Lloyd's Register audit process. The assessment and verification was conducted through a series of desk-top reviews and numerous on-site documentary and operational inspections, utilizing experts from Lloyd's Register head office in Southampton and LRQA office in Istanbul. The standards against which LEYAL's ship recycling facilities were audited were drawn from the IMO Hong Kong Convention (2009), the IMO Resolution MEPC.210(63) and the European Ship Recycling Regulation (EU) No. 1257/2013.

Jim Heath, the Ship Recycling Manager at Lloyd's Register, said: "This achievement is the culmination of many months of rigorous reviews of ship recycling facility plans and supporting documentation, and a series of demanding site inspections, thereby ensuring that management systems and operations are in full accordance with not only International Maritime Organization requirements but also exacting standards published by the European Commission. It has been a pleasure to work with the top level management and the staff working at LEYAL. Their commitment to the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships and their desire to push for ever higher standards is to be applauded."

At the same time Dimitri Ayvatoglu, Head of Special Projects & External Affairs at LEYAL, stated that "We are proud to have achieved another major milestone in our continuous effort to offer the shipping sector with a sustainable ship recycling service, both in relation to viable commercial realities as well as with respect to safe and environmentally sound operations."

LEYAL has established a long and successful track record with a robust performance and depth of experience in *green recycling* over the past 35 years of operating in Turkey (since 1981), making it one of the oldest ship recycling facilities in continuous operation worldwide. LEYAL's commitment towards safe and sustainable ship recycling continues beyond this major milestone, with the company having already established and being in the process of implementing a further development program with the aim of obtaining relevant certification also against the new European Ship Recycling Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 1257/2013) which is expected to come into force by 2018.

===ENDS===

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

LEYAL Ship Dismantling & Recycling Group is a leading ship recycling company operating out of plots 3, 4 and 25 located in Turkey's largest industrial area in Aliaga, Turkey. The facilities occupy an area of approximately 60,000 square meters and are capable of recycling in excess of 100,000 lightweight tons a year. The facilities have recycled a wide range of ships and offshore units, including but not limited to FPSOs, FSOs, aircraft carriers, submarines, tankers, containerhips and bulkers, with the largest vessels dismantled being in excess of 40,000 lightweight tons. LEYAL is the oldest ship recycling company in Turkey, also being the first to have implemented the European waste shipment regulation for the recycling of ships into Turkey (2004) and the first to have been awarded with ISO and OHSAS certification regarding ship recycling in Turkey (2006). LEYAL is also a founding member and board member of the International Ship Recycling Association (2007) and was also a member of the BIMCO subcommittee that drafted the only ship recycling specific sales contract RECYCLECON (2012).

Please note that photos are available upon request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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