

Press release - 10 February 2010

## Queen names Boskalis trailing suction hopper dredger WILLEM VAN ORANJE



Her Majesty the Queen named and launched the trailing suction hopper dredger WILLEM VAN ORANJE on 10 February 2010. The ship is being built for Royal Boskalis Westminster N.V. at the IHC Merwede shipyard in Kinderdijk, The Netherlands.

Boskalis is celebrating its centennial in 2010, and this was the main theme of the naming ceremony. With this in mind, and in order to underline the historical significance of the year, the centennial vessel has been named after the Founder of the House of Oranje Nassau, William of Orange (Willem van Oranje).

The WILLEM VAN ORANJE was designed and is being built by IHC Merwede, in close collaboration with Boskalis. A characteristic feature of the vessel's design is the twin hopper concept. This concept makes it possible to optimise the load of the ship in relation to the draught, particularly in relatively shallow waters.

Sustainability is also a major focus of WILLEM VAN ORANJE's design. The ballast water is cleaned before it is pumped overboard. In anticipation of increasingly stringent environmental standards, space has also been left in the funnel to install equipment for the additional cleaning of exhaust fumes.

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**Boskalis Profile**

Royal Boskalis Westminster N.V. is a leading international service company in the area of dredging, maritime infrastructure and maritime services. We deliver creative and innovative total solutions worldwide for infrastructure challenges in maritime areas, coastal areas and deltas. Our activities include the construction and maintenance of ports and waterways, land reclamation, coastal defense and riverbank protection. The company holds important home market positions in and outside of Europe and targets all market segments in the dredging and maritime infrastructure sector. Boskalis also has positions in strategic partnerships in the Middle East (Archirodon) and in offshore services (Lamnalco). Boskalis has a versatile fleet of over 300 units and operates in over 50 countries across five continents. Including its share in partnerships, Boskalis has approximately 10,000 employees.

**IHC Merwede Profile**

IHC Merwede is focused on the continuous development of its design and construction activities for the specialised shipbuilding sector, in particular the dredging and offshore industries. IHC Merwede is the world market leader in the construction of specialist dredging equipment. IHC Merwede is also recognised as an outstanding builder of complex, custom-built vessels for offshore construction. The clients of IHC Merwede include major dredging companies, oil and gas groups, offshore contractors and government authorities.

IHC Merwede has a staff of approximately 2,800 at its locations in the Netherlands. The company also has operations in the UK, China, India, the Middle East, Nigeria, Russia, Singapore Slovakia and the USA.

**For more information:****IHC Merwede Holding B.V.**

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You can find the press release and photographs at [www.ihcmerwede.com](http://www.ihcmerwede.com).

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## Additional information

### William of Orange

William I, Prince of Orange (24 April 1533 - 10 July 1584), also widely known as William the Silent ( Willem de Zwijger), or simply William of Orange ( Willem van Oranje) , was the main leader of the Dutch revolt against the Spanish that set off the Eighty Years' War and resulted in the formal independence of the United Provinces in 1648. He was born into the House of Nassau as a count of Nassau-Dillenburg. He became Prince of Orange in 1544 and is thereby the founder of the branch House of Orange-Nassau. In the Netherlands William of Orange is also known as the "Father of the Fatherland".

### Main features

Name	WILLEM VAN ORANJE
Type	trailing suction hopper dredger
Client	Royal Boskalis Westminster N.V.
Builder	IHC Merwede
Length overall	137.00m
Length between perpendiculars	125.00m
Beam	28.00m
Moulded depth	13.50m
Hopper capacity	12,000m <sup>3</sup>
Diameter of suction pipes	1,200mm
Maximum dredging depth	62m
International draught	8.00m
Dredging draught	10.00m
Speed	15.40 knots
Accommodation	24 people

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### Trailing suction hopper dredger



*Trailing suction hopper dredger*

A dredging vessel that is used to remove and transport soil by trailing a draghead (1) on the end of a large suction pipe (2) over the bed while sailing so that the soil is loosened by the suction nozzle. Large centrifugal pumps transport the dredged material as sludge to the hopper (3) from where it is later discharged (through bottom doors) (4) or pumped (through a pipeline or by 'rainbowing' from the bows) (5) to the landfill. The specific applications of this type of equipment include the construction or deepening of ports and waterways. The advantage of this type of vessel is that they can be used in a range of weather conditions and sea states. They can also transport the material large distances. In addition, the ships can work independently, reducing the impact on other shipping to a minimum.