

Growth in cargo traffic continued in Q3

In Q3 2017, Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör saw continued growth in cargo traffic, and despite a minor decrease in the number of transported cars, the increasing cargo traffic entailed a higher capacity utilisation on the route's ferries. Management therefore decided to increase capacity by expanding ferry Hamlet's sailing schedule by five hours daily.

- The number of departures was 12,800 as in Q3 2016. Reliability remained unchanged and high, and the capacity utilisation of the car deck continued to increase.
- The number of transported trucks increased by almost 5% to more than 102,600 (2016: 98,000) and transported goods increased to 1,186,000 tons (2016: 1,132,000 tons).
- Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör transported 457,000 cars in Q3 2017 (2016: 473,000) corresponding to a decline of 3%. Bus traffic on the route was 6,900 transported units in Q3 2017 (2016: 7,400). The total number of passengers thus declined by approximately 3% to 2.54 million in Q3 2017 (2016: 2.5 million).
- The use of AutoBizz Smart increased by more than 7% compared to the same period last year.

"The continued increase in cargo traffic is testament to the role our floating bridge has for trade in the region. It is proof that our freight customers appreciate the precision and reliability we are able to offer. At the same time, the increased cargo traffic has compensated for the slightly lower car and bus traffic seen during the summer months," said Johan Röstin, CEO of HH Ferries AB.

To accommodate demand from professional and retail customers alike, management has decided to increase capacity on the route by expanding Hamlet's sailing schedule by 5 hours daily as of 1 December. The expansion will make it possible to transport an additional 40,000 trucks per year.

"We will continue the positive development of our business by delivering good service and reliability to our many customers. In October, we have received the final authority approvals for Tycho Brahe's charging stations, and the ferry is thus already sailing in both battery and hybrid operations, while charging procedures are being adjusted. It remains our plan to commission Aurora in battery operations before the turn of the year ensuring that the world's two largest battery-operated ferries are sailing on Öresund before the new year to the benefit of our customers and the environment in the region," said Johan Röstin.

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HH QUARTERLY is published every quarter and contributes to the public debate with concrete facts concerning the traffic and financial development of the Öresund region, which Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör plays an important role in promoting.

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Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör

- on time departures at all times

HH Ferries Group operates Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör, transporting up to 50,000 passengers and 9,000 cars across Öresund on a daily basis with departures every fifteen minutes. The five modern vessels on the route offer travelers a short travel time of 20 minutes and a pleasant break with the option of shopping at low prices and enjoying a wide selection of food and beverages onboard.

An efficient and environmentally friendly traffic machine

Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör is the region's floating bridge with the five vessels Aurora, Tycho Brahe, Hamlet, Mercandia IV and Mercandia VIII. The ferries are environmentally friendly and fitted with catalytic converters. In 2016-2017, Aurora and Tycho Brahe are converted to battery operation at a total investment of around SEK 300 million. INEA, the EU's executive agency for innovation and network, supports the project with around SEK 120 million.

In 2016, Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör transported 7.3 million passengers and 1.4 million cars, 410,000 trucks and 20,000 buses, corresponding to around 20% of the vehicles crossing Öresund¹. The route promotes integration and growth in the Öresund region, and is operated by 750 employees. It operates on a daily basis to ensure an efficient connection between Denmark and Sweden with a view of making travellers' crossing as pleasant and efficient as possible. The route furthermore contributes to generating up to 2,000 jobs in the region.

The ferry route is marketed under the trademark Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör and is owned by the company HH Ferries AB, headquartered in Helsingborg. Johan Röstin is CEO of HH Ferries AB, which is owned by investment company First State Investments.

¹ The total number of transported vehicles on the connections Scandlines Helsingborg-Helsingör and the Öresund Bridge.