



## **MISC JOINS CRUSH ON LNG BERTHS WITH UP TO SIX LNG CARRIERS IN CHINA**

Over 20 LNG carriers contracted in the first month of 2026. Malaysian shipowner MISC has booked up to six LNG carriers at China's expanding Hudong-Zhonghua Shipbuilding, as the first month of the year closed with a large order haul for the ship sector. State-controlled MISC inked three firm 174,000-cbm LNG carriers at the yard and has also secured optional berths for a further trio of vessels. The contracts on these vessels are listed as being signed on 30 January. There is an expectation that the order for the company could grow by a further four newbuildings. Malaysian state energy company Petronas is being quoted as the time-charterer of the contracted newbuildings. These latest LNG newbuilding orders for MISC round off a busy January for LNG carrier contracting in both China and South Korea. At least 21 LNG newbuildings were ordered at five shipbuilders during the month. This compares with just eight in the first half of 2025 and 38 in the full year. But the pace of contracting would appear to be picking up as the strong total for January follows new contracts being placed for 18 ships in December 2025. China is a new departure for MISC, which has travelled the world with its LNG orders, building in France, Japan and South Korea. Brokers said China is offering substantially discounted prices closer to \$230m for LNG carriers, compared to the \$250m price tag at South Korean yards. Hudong-Zhonghua in particular, which has been China's primary LNG carrier shipbuilder, has been expanding its capacity for the sector and now boasts over 60 LNG carriers on its orderbook. Petronas has also been growing its China connections, signing a new LNG sales and purchase agreement with CNOOC Gas & Power in December and opening a new office in the country. MISC is in the process of renewing its LNG carrier fleet. Clarkson's Shipping

Intelligence Network lists that eight of the company's LNG carriers (built 2002 and 2009) are laid up. Last year, MISC sold two of its steam turbine-driven LNG carriers — the 130,405-cbm Puteri Delima and Puteri Nilam (both built 1995) — for demolition. In December, TradeWinds reported that the company had circulated three more membrane-type LNG steamers — the 137,100-cbm Puteri Firus Satu and Puteri Zamrud Satu (both built 2004), along with the 137,595-cbm Puteri Mutiara Satu (built 2005) — for sale. The trio is on the company's laid-up list. MISC was sounding out the market for demolition bids on the vessels. MISC is listed as having seven LNG carriers on order for delivery dates this year and in 2027. Source: [www.tradewindsnews.com](http://www.tradewindsnews.com)

## **NYK SELLS OFF STEAM TURBINE SHIP TO INDONESIAN BUYER**

Nineteen-year-old membrane carrier looks set to trade on. Japanese shipowner NYK has sold one of its steam turbine LNG carriers as it weeds out older tonnage to renew its fleet. Brokers said the 149,700-cbm Grace Barleria (built 2007) had been sold to Indonesia-based buyers. The 19-year-old membrane-type ship is reported to have fetched a strong price of about \$35m. NYK officials declined to comment on sales reports. Those following the second-hand LNG carrier sector pointed out that while the ship is fitted with a steam turbine propulsion system, which makes it one of the lowest earners in today's market, it is among the youngest and largest built with this engine type. Its size might make it a more desirable candidate for further trading, potentially on a regional basis, and also for use as a storage vessel. The South Korean-built Grace Barleria is one of a series of LNG carriers apparently speculatively ordered by NYK as it was building out its LNG interests into the European market. The vessel was the "B" in this line of alphabetically named sister ships that included the Grace Acacia (built 2007) and Grace Cosmos (built 2028). NYK and the then GDF Suez managed the trio under the business Gazocean, in which the Japanese shipowner had a 20% stake. In 2024, NYK sold the Grace Cosmos as it approached the end of its long-term charter. The vessel, which passed its last special survey in March 2023, was sold to Chinese company Sino Commerce Offshore for a price in the mid-\$50m region. It has since been renamed Grand Cosmos and is listed as owned by Singapore-based Zeus Energy. Kpler data shows the vessel under the control of Russia's Sakhalin Energy, deployed to lift cargoes from the Sakhalin-2 plant for discharge in China and Japan. In 2016, NYK put the Grace Acacia up for sale, when it was just 10 years old and had been redelivered by its French charterer. But it remained unsold the following year and is still in the owner's fleet. Steam turbine LNG carriers are slowly making their way out of the globally traded fleet, where they usually rank as much smaller and less efficient than their modern two-stroke counterparts. Last year, a record 15 LNG carriers were sent for demolition — all of them steamships. Seapeak has confirmed the first scrap sale of 2026, which is also a steamer. In January, Oman's Asyad Shipping announced it had sold four steamships to an unnamed buyer for around \$110m in total. Source: [www.tradewindsnews.com](http://www.tradewindsnews.com)

## **WOODSIDE NARROWS DOWN SHORTLIST OF OWNERS FOR RAFT OF LNG NEWBUILDINGS**

Battle for LNG berths is heating up as newbuilding talks for one major player move forward. Australia's Woodside Energy is closing in on its choice of shipowners and yards for multiple LNG carrier newbuildings, which it is seeking to take on charter. Brokers and others working in the LNG sector said the energy company has shortlisted seven owners. They name them as Japan's Mitsui OSK Lines and NYK, Hyundai Glovis of South Korea, Seapeak and Greek owners Dynagas, Maran Gas Maritime and GasLog. They highlighted that some of these shipowners, like GasLog and Seapeak, have recently contracted what appear to be as-yet uncommitted LNG carrier newbuildings. Maran Gas has LNG tonnage on order, and others, such as MOL and NYK, have such large LNG fleets that they may also



also secured orders for very large ammonia carriers and container vessels from EPS, Southwest Maritime and COSCO. South Korean shipbuilders have also been active early this year, with new orders linked to Alpha Gas and JP Morgan-backed interests. Source: [www.rivieramm.com](http://www.rivieramm.com)

## **CHINA'S CNOOC MAKES FIRST LNG DELIVERIES TO TURKIYE AND ITALY**

China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) continues to expand its international LNG business with first deliveries to Turkiye and Italy. CNOOC's gas and power unit announced on Wednesday that the spot LNG shipments were recently delivered to the two countries. This marks a significant breakthrough in expanding into emerging Mediterranean markets and enhancing the company's global natural gas trade network, CNOOC Gas and Power said. As an energy hub connecting Europe and Asia, Turkiye has become an increasingly important end-user buyer in the international LNG market in recent years, the company noted. CNOOC's successful LNG delivery to Turkiye not only marks a breakthrough into this new market but also creates favorable conditions for its future participation in regional energy cooperation and enhanced influence in European and global LNG trade, it said. CNOOC Gas and Power did not provide further details regarding the shipments. Images published by CNOOC Gas and Power show that the company delivered the cargoes with the 173,400-cbm Global Star and the 160,000-cbm Kool Frost. Global Star's AIS data provided by VesselsValue shows that the LNG carrier visited the Egegaz Aliaga LNG terminal in Turkiye last month, carrying a cargo from the Freeport LNG facility in Texas. In addition, Kool Frost delivered a shipment from Cheniere's Sabine Pass LNG facility in Louisiana to the FSRU Toscana offshore Italy's Livorno last month, the data shows. These two shipments follow CNOOC's first LNG delivery to Senegal. The 174,000-cbm Flex Vigilant delivered a US LNG cargo to the 125,000-cbm FSRU Karmol LNGT Powership Africa, owned by the joint venture consisting of Turkiye's Karpowership and Japan's MOI, in December last year. Source: [www.lnprime.com](http://www.lnprime.com)

## **HANWHA OCEAN: US PROJECTS AND STEAM VESSELS SCRAPPING DRIVE NEWBUILDING DEMAND**

South Korean shipbuilder Hanwha Ocean said on Wednesday that US export project FIDs and the phase-out of steam LNG carriers are expected to continue to drive newbuilding demand. Last year, Hanwha Ocean said that it expects the recovery in the LNG newbuilding market to be led by US export projects and the phase-out of steam LNG carriers. The shipbuilder said in its fourth-quarter report that 15 steam LNG carriers have been sold for demolition in 2025. This compares to six in 2023 and seven in 2024, according to Hanwha Ocean. In addition to vessel scrapping, the shipbuilder noted in its quarterly report that demand has been boosted by the recovery of shipping rates since October 2025 and by expected orders linked to new LNG export terminals. Hanwha Ocean also noted a potential shift in demand toward Korean shipyards due to the Ships Act and China-related restrictions. Discussing the order outlook, the shipbuilder said that the US-led expansion of LNG projects and rising Asia-driven LNG demand are driving newbuild demand. "Short-term Asia emerging-market demand (China, India) under price sensitivity despite downward price pressure from rising LNG supply, and long-term structural demand growth from electrification and rising living standards in developing economies," it said. The shipbuilder also noted that there is "growing FLNG relevance as a cost-efficient, flexible alternative to large onshore LNG plants, enabling faster commercialization of smaller reserves."

### LNG carriers

Hanwha Ocean recently secured a contract valued at approximately \$501 million to build two LNG carriers for Greece's Alpha Gas. This is Hanwha Ocean's first LNG carrier order in 2026. Last year, Hanwha Ocean secured orders for 13 LNG carriers, including seven vessels tied to Norway's Knutsen. Last year's orders also include contracts with its US affiliate Hanwha Philly Shipyard. In August 2025, Hanwha Ocean announced a contract with Hanwha Philly Shipyard to build a second LNG carrier. As of the end of December 2025, Hanwha Ocean had 65 LNG vessels worth \$16.1 billion in its orderbook. Hanwha Ocean reported revenue of 12.69 trillion won (\$8.7 billion) and operating profit of 1.1 trillion won in 2025, both up compared to last year. Source: [www.lngprime.com](http://www.lngprime.com)

## **QATARENERGY PENS 20-YEAR LNG SPA WITH MALAYSIA'S PETRONAS**

State-owned LNG giant QatarEnergy signed a 20-year LNG sales and purchase agreement (SPA) with Malaysia's Petronas. According to a QatarEnergy statement, the 20-year deal is for two million tons per annum (mtpa) of LNG from Qatar to Malaysia starting in 2028. The agreement was signed by Qatar's Energy Minister and CEO of QatarEnergy, Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi, and Tan Sri Tengku Muhammad Taufik, the president and group CEO of Petronas during a ceremony held in Doha on the sidelines of the LNG2026 conference. QatarEnergy also signed a 27-year LNG sale and purchase deal with Japan's Jera yesterday.

### First long-term LNG SPA

QatarEnergy said this is the first long-term LNG SPA between the company and Petronas. "QatarEnergy is pleased to enter into this new LNG SPA with Petronas, which highlights our continued commitment to support the growing energy needs of Malaysia as well as our customers across the globe," Al-Kaabi said. Petronas said in a separate statement that the long-term volumes secured through this agreement will "play a critical role in reinforcing Malaysia's energy supply security, ensuring stable and reliable LNG availability to meet growing demand in Malaysia." Petronas' CEO said this agreement marks an "important milestone for Petronas in bolstering energy security for those we serve." "The supply of LNG through partnerships with industry-leading partners such as QatarEnergy complements the cargoes from our LNG heartlands in Malaysia and Canada, diversifying our supply nodes even as Petronas unlocks new avenues to derive greater value and efficiency," he said.

### Qatari expansion

QatarEnergy is working on the giant North Field LNG expansion program, which includes the North Field South, North Field East, and North Field West projects. Together, these will raise Qatar's LNG production capacity in Ras Laffan from the current 77 mtpa to 142 mtpa in 2030. In February 2024, QatarEnergy announced the North Field West project, which will add 16 mtpa of LNG to the overall expansion of the North Field. Moreover, the first two projects include six mega trains, each with a production capacity of 8 mtpa of LNG. Four of these are part of the North Field East expansion project, and two are part of the North Field South expansion project. Source: [www.lngprime.com](http://www.lngprime.com)

## **GREECE'S DESFA SAYS ALMOST ALL REVITHOUSSA LNG SLOTS BOOKED UNTIL 2040**

Greece's DESFA said firms have reserved almost all of the offered regasification slots at its LNG import terminal on the island of Revithoussa for the period 2026-2040. DESFA announced on Tuesday that it has concluded the annual auctions for the booking of LNG unloading slots and regasification capacity at the Revithoussa LNG terminal for the 2026-2040 period, which were held between October





According to the firm, the volume delivered is almost 100 million cubic metres – enough to provide gas to about 700,000 families for one month during the winter period. Naftogaz noted that the LNG tanker was en route for 20 days, and it arrived in late January at the LNG terminal in Swinoujscie. After regasification, the resource is now available for Ukraine’s needs, it said. Naftogaz did not provide further details regarding the shipment. “Total US LNG supplies to Ukraine could reach 1 billion cubic meters in 2026, which will make a significant contribution to ensuring the stable operation of the energy system in wartime conditions,” it said. In addition to Orlen’s supplies, a joint venture of Greek companies Aktor and DEPA recently signed its first deal to supply a US LNG cargo to Naftogaz via DESFA’s Revithoussa LNG terminal in Greece.

#### **Additional US LNG supplies**

In November 2025, Orlen agreed to supply three more LNG cargoes, equivalent to over 300 billion cubic feet (bcf) of gas, to Naftogaz from the US in the first quarter of 2026. Before this, the two firms signed a cooperation deal in March 2025 under which Orlen delivered LNG cargoes to the FSRU-based terminal in Lithuania’s Klaipeda and the Swinoujscie terminal in Poland. Under this deal, more than 600 million cubic metres of gas were delivered to Ukraine last year. Ukraine has no LNG import facilities. Orlen has secured long-term regasification capacity at the FSRU-based facility in Klaipeda, reserved until 2032, allowing it to import via the terminal over 0.5 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually. It also uses KN Energies’ small-scale LNG terminal in Lithuania’s Klaipeda. In Poland, Orlen imports LNG via the Gaz-System-operated import facility in Swinoujscie, which was expanded to about 8.3 bcm per year. In addition, Orlen booked 6.1 bcm per year of regasification capacity at Gaz-System’s planned FSRU-based LNG import facility in Gdansk. Orlen has contracts with US LNG exporters Venture Global and Cheniere and QatarEnergy LNG, as well as contracts with US exporter Sempra, under which deliveries have not yet commenced. Source: [www.lngprime.com](http://www.lngprime.com)

#### **HUDONG-ZHONGHUA GETS APPROVALS FOR LNG CARRIER, FSRU**

Chinese shipbuilder Hudong-Zhonghua has received approvals from classification societies for new vessel designs, including an LNG carrier and a floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU). Hudong-Zhonghua received the approvals in principle (AiPs) from ABS, BV, CCS, DNV, and LR during the LNG2026 conference in Doha. The AiPs are for a 174,000-cbm LNG and FSRU, a 150,000-cbm ultra-large ethane carrier (ULEC), and the P-Flex 201,000-cbm LNG carrier. Hudong-Zhonghua also received an AiP from LR for a carbon capture system for a 271,000-cbm LNG carrier. The Panama-Flex or P-Flex design is a three-cargo tank LNG carrier for which the shipbuilder received approvals last year. The LNG carrier will have a capacity of 201,000 cbm, while its tanks will feature GTT’s NO96 Super+ containment technology. Hudong-Zhonghua said the newly developed 174,000-cbm FSRU features a dual-function design that can be converted flexibly into an LNG carrier, significantly enhancing asset utilization and investment returns. The FSRU features a DFDE single-propeller propulsion system and utilizes GTT’s NO96 GW containment system. Hudong-Zhonghua said customers may select 3 or 4 regasification modules to meet 750-1000 MMscfd operational demands, balancing flexibility and reliability. Hudong-Zhonghua has been very busy in the last two months. The shipbuilder won orders for 10 firm LNG carriers, including the most recent order by Malaysia’s LNG shipping player MISC, a unit of Petronas, for three vessels. Hudong-Zhonghua also secured an order from George Economou-led TMS Group and it won an order from Nigeria LNG’s shipping unit Bonny Gas Transport (BGT). Source: [www.lngprime.com](http://www.lngprime.com)













## **TURKIYE PLANS TWO MORE FSRUS**

Turkiye plans to install a second floating storage and regasification unit at the Dortyol facility in the southern province of Hatay and another FSRU in the Mediterranean, according to Türkiye's energy minister Alparslan Bayraktar. Bayraktar announced via his social media channels that he visited the Dortyol facility and witnessed a ship-to-ship LNG transfer at the 170,000-cbm FSRU Ertugrul Gazi. The 174,000-cbm Orion Jessica delivered a cargo of LNG to the FSRU. Botas-operated Ertugrul Gazi recently completed its 100th ship-to-ship transfer of LNG at the Dortyol facility in since its launch in 2021. With a daily regasification capacity of 28 million cubic meters, this facility meets the natural gas needs of 17 provinces, primarily Hatay and Osmaniye, Bayraktar said, adding that Turkiye will further expand the facility. "With our second FSRU project, which will double the capacity in Dortyol, and the new facility we will commission in the Mediterranean, we will increase our daily regasification capacity to 200 million cubic meters. This will enable us to meet more than half of our needs with LNG," the minister said. Bayraktar did not provide further details regarding the new FSRUs. In December last year, Bayraktar said at a conference in Istanbul that Turkiye has increased its LNG regasification capacity fivefold since 2016, reaching 161 million cubic meters per day, as part of its plans to boost energy security, while the country is also working to become an LNG supply hub. He said that Turkiye signed LNG supply agreements for 106 billion cubic meters last year. These deals include the 10-year deals Botas signed to buy LNG from Italian energy firm Eni and German gas importer SEFE. In addition to the FSRU-based Dortyol facility, Botas operates the FSRU-based Saros terminal. There is also one other FSRU operating in Turkiye at the privately-owned Etki terminal in Aliaga, Izmir, while Egegaz operates the Izmir Aliaga LNG facility. Botas also operates the onshore Marmara Ereğlisi LNG import terminal. Source: [www.lngprime.com](http://www.lngprime.com)

## **EXCELERATE, INVENIRE MOVE FORWARD WITH INDIAN LNG TERMINAL PLANS**

US FSRU player Excelerate Energy and India's Invenire Petrodyne are moving forward with their plans to develop an LNG import terminal at the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Haldia. In September 2025, local reports announced that Excelerate Global Operations and Invenire Petrodyne have secured a 30-year license from Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, to develop an FSRU-based terminal in the Haldia port. Excelerate declined to comment on the development at the time. Last week, Excelerate's CEO, Steven Kobos, visited India, where he met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri, according to social media posts from Excelerate and Kobos. "This week marked an important milestone for Excelerate as we advanced our strategic partnership with Invenire Petrodyne Ltd. to co-develop an integrated LNG terminal at the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Haldia, West Bengal," Kobos said. "Through our joint development agreement, our consortium will gain long-term access to a 25-acre waterfront site where we plan to develop, build, and operate a world-class LNG import facility that will serve India for decades to come," he said. Moreover, Kobos noted that India is one of the world's fastest-growing economies, and natural gas is poised to play an increasingly important role in supporting its industrial growth, power generation needs, and ambitions for cleaner, more efficient energy systems. "Projects like Haldia demonstrate the importance of reliable downstream LNG infrastructure — supported by scalable development pathways that enable energy access to grow alongside the country's needs," he said.

