

Straits Orient Lines feeder containership was renamed SOL Stride in April 2021. The renaming came after the ship was acquired from Asiatic Lloyd.Photo: Straits Orient Lines

## Straits Orient Lines adds Asiatic Lloyd feeder boxship to expanding fleet

Straits Orient Lines of Singapore has revealed the identity of the second feeder containership that it acquired back in March.

The company told TradeWinds that it took delivery of Asiatic Lloyd's 1,155-teu Asiatic Dawn (built 2006) in Singapore on Monday. The vessel has been renamed SOL Stride.

It may be interested in buying more ships if potentially good deals become available.

The SOL Stride is the second of two that Straits Orient previously revealed it had purchased for a combined investment of \$15. Its identity has not been disclosed until now.

The first vessel, Vroon's 1,702-teu Max Kudo (built 2008), was delivered to the company in early March and renamed SOL Promise.

Both ships are being managed by Providence Ship Management.

Both Straits Orient and Providence are part of the Mahesh Sivaswamy-led Transworld Group Singapore.

The addition of the SOL Stride gives Straits Orient a fleet of 12 directly-owned containerships. Additional ships are chartered in or provided by route partners.

Asked whether it was actively searching for more ships to buy, a company executive said it was not ruling out the possibility.

"We keep looking at the opportunities as they come, and if we find any such good opportunity to acquire another vessel, we will move," the executive said, while noting that the company was committed to growth.

Straits Orient was launched in 1999 and was rebranded from Orient Express Lines in July 2020.

The company operates a sizeable route network between South East Asia, the Indian subcontinent and the Middle East.(Copyright)