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MARITIME LEISURE GROUP WINS COVETED THOMSON AWARD

Thomson Cruises recently presented their Cruise Department Gold Award for 2000 to Maritime Leisure Group and Kyma Shipping Inc in respect of the all-inclusive cruise ship TSS The TOPAZ.

The prestigious gold accolades were originally established by Thomson Holidays as a means of rewarding those suppliers that have provided a consistently high level of quality to holiday makers. The evaluation is based on the scores and direct feedback provided by passengers via their end of cruise questionnaires and it is an entirely customer derived result.

The Topaz, which started operations with Thomson Cruises in 1998, has established itself as a firm favourite for first time cruises and families alike and has a large following of repeat passengers who regularly sail on the vessel.

The international hotel and entertainment specialists, Maritime Leisure Group, with offices in Salzburg, Limassol, St Petersburg and London, operate the hotel and entertainment departments onboard the TOPAZ. They have introduced a number of innovative concepts including 'Le Cabaret', a dinner theatre where entertainment and dining combine to provide an absolutely unique experience available on no other cruise ship. All inclusive bars, open rolling sitting with an 'eat when you want, where you want' philosophy and a colourful, gastronomic world tour in the weekly 'Food Bazaar' have all contributed to passengers voting the ship as a true winner.

Members of the Maritime Leisure Group

The Lloyd's Building, One Lime Street, London EC3M 7HA • Tel: +44 (0) 20 7929 5533
• Fax: +44 (0) 20 7929 5534
Email: contact@maritimeleisure.com • Website: www.maritimeleisure.com



'Jürgen Scharkosi, Liudmila Kopyakova & John Bywater with the Thomson Gold Award'

David Selby, Managing Director Thomson Cruises, presented the award to Jürgen Scharkosi, Chairman of the Maritime Leisure Group. Mr Scharkosi, explained that it was a great honour and achievement to have received the Award from the UK's largest and best known tour operator and that such a prestigious award acts as a strong Motivational factor for the crew on board. "I am also extremely pleased that Thomson Cruise wanted to have the award placed on board the ship in a very visible position where both the crew and passengers can see it".

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

AUSTRIA:
JURGEN SCHARKOSI
CHAIRMAN, MARITIME LEISURE GROUP

MARITIME BUSINESS CENTER
A-5073 SALBURG, AUSTRIA
TEL: +43-662-853330
FAX: +43-662-853332
Email: executive@maritime.at

UNITED KINGDOM:
JOHN BYWATER
MANAGING DIRECTOR, MARITIME LEISURE
LTD
THE LLOYDS BUILDING
ONE LIME STREET
LONDON EC3M 7HA
UNITED KINGDOM
TEL: +44 (0) 20 7929 5533
FAX: +44 (0) 20 7929 5533
Email: contact@maritimeleisure.com

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