

One of Radiomar's field engineers went to Remontowa Shipyard, located in Gdansk, Poland, to supervise the installation.

Maersk shipping fleet will increase in Brazil

The Danish Company Maersk Supply Service, traditional service provider of Petrobras, has plans to follow the growth of the oil and gas industry in Brazil, the company's largest market in the world. To achieve this goal, Maersk will increase by more than 60% of the fleet of support vessels operating in the country to support oil platforms. Today the company has 15 vessels operating in offshore in Brazil, this number will reach 18 in December this year and by the end of the decade, is likely to reach at least 25 vessels.

“This is the number [of ships] that I would like to have by 2020 if we follow the growth of the market,” says Viggo Andersen, director of Maersk Supply Service Apoio Maritimo, the Brazilian subsidiary of Maersk Supply Service, a company that has between 25% and 30% of sales in the Brazilian market. Andersen said the company also intends to analyze the construction of vessels in Brazilian shipyards. “We are looking and making quotations in the Brazilian market,” he said.

The company has about 20% of the global market for large AHTS, with power between 15 000 and 23 000 BHPS BHPS.

From December, three new AHTS Maersk begin to operate for Petrobras. The vessels, “foreign flag”, suffered improvements in Remontowa shipyard in Poland, which demanded investments of \$ 35 million. The funds were used largely to reinforce the deck of the ship and allow to move torpedo anchors, used by Petrobras in production units. The torpedo anchors take this name because its shape resembles a torpedo or missile used in the defense sector.

The three new vessels have contracts with Petrobras to operate for four years worth \$ 275 million. In the international market, these type of vessels have charter rates between \$ 65 000 and \$ 70 000 per day. Due to contractual issues, Maersk does not tell what is the daily rate of charter agreed with Petrobras for the new ships.

Today Maersk already has ten vessels operating for Petrobras and five other carriers working for oil or waiting contracts. From the Maersk's total fleet in Brazil, 2 have Brazilian flag and 16 have foreign flag. Brazilian ships are two PSVs (Platform Supply Vessel), 4.5 thousand tons each, built in the shipyard Brasfels, Angra dos Reis, in 2005. The company also has two contingencies fighting vessels known in industry jargon as OSRVs operating in Brazil.

Worldwide, the total fleet of Maersk is between 67 and 70 vessels. The company operates in the North Sea, Canada, Australia and West Africa. The current Brazilian Maersk fleet of 15 vessels, represent just over 20% of the company's international fleet.

In Brazil, Maersk evaluates the prospects for expansion considering the growth plans of Petrobras, its main customer in international terms. Between 2012 and 2020, Petrobras plans to build 38 production platforms units necessary to ensure the increase of oil production of 2 million barrels per day to 4.2 million barrels per day.

The increase in the number of platforms will also require an increase in the fleet of offshore support vessels. According to Petrobras, 2020 will require 568 support ships and special vessels, an increase of almost 100% over the existing fleet at the end of 2010, of 287 vessels.

Source: Portos e Navios - Valor Economico // Francisco Goes | De Sao Paulo