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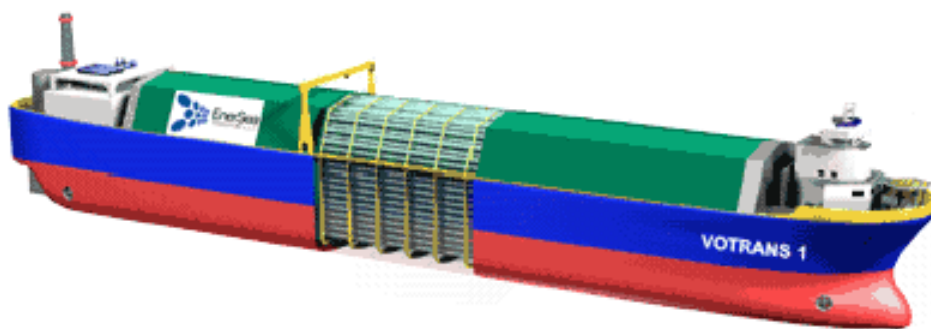
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ABS to review new CNG carrier design

(7/23/2002 - OGI: Houston) ABS revealed today that it has been selected to conduct a review of the new compressed natural gas (CNG) vessel concept developed by Enersea. ABS was the classification society that pioneered the establishment of safety standards for the carriage of liquefied natural gas (LNG). It will be assisting the partnership of EnerSea Transport, Hyundai Heavy Industries, and Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha in developing vessels designed to carry compressed natural gas (CNG). ABS will provide "class approval in principle" of Enersea's VOTRANS (Volume Optimized Transport Storage) compressed natural gas vessel concept to the ABS classification requirements.



The EnerSea VOTRANS CNG vessel.

Recognizing the complexities of incorporating these CNG technologies into the application of transportation and storage of the gas, EnerSea has chosen not only to use the classification resources of ABS, but also the risk management and risk assessment services of **ABSG Consulting (ABS Consulting)** to address the overall risks associated with the design, construction, and operation of the vessels using both quantitative and qualitative studies.

"In development of a novel concept such as the one developed by EnerSea, the use of risk assessment techniques will be key in assisting class to verify that the vessel is designed and constructed to achieve the highest safety levels as well as provide for optimum performance," said Chris Serratella, chief engineer, **ABS Consulting**.

As owner and operator of EnerSea's next generation of gas ships, K Line (Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha) Director Hisashi Yasui said, "Our operations experience coupled with this innovative technology and the classification experience and guidance from ABS promises to be an industry-winning combination in natural gas transportation."

