

PRESS RELEASE

PORT OF SUNDERLAND WELCOMES OFFSHORE CABLE-LAYING SHIP

A high-tech ship involved in major cable laying projects for the offshore wind industry is receiving a visit from the Leader of Sunderland City Council this week.

Councillor Paul Watson, Leader of Sunderland City Council who will be meeting Captain Paul Haines aboard the 11,242 tonne vessel CS Sovereign said: "We are very pleased to welcome the CS Sovereign at the Port of Sunderland. The Port has a key role to play in the city's Economic Masterplan by encouraging offshore wind and other renewable energy business into the city. We are therefore naturally keen to encourage future vessel calls, as well as interest amongst the wider community of the tremendous resource we have in the Port and the potential it offers to incoming businesses."

"With an extensive track record in the offshore power market, the CS Sovereign has worked on several cable installation projects which have made a vital contribution in moving the United Kingdom towards a new low-carbon economy. Based in Portland, the CS Sovereign is currently berthed at Sunderland's Greenwells Quay following a successful cable-laying venture off the Orkney Islands," said Simon Hibberd, Fleet Operations Manager, Global Marine Systems.

A number of factors make the Port of Sunderland an attractive proposition for companies seeking berthing or development land for servicing offshore-energy and subsea project enterprises.

They include a close proximity to the open sea, the availability of extensive quay space and land suitable for the development of onshore facilities for companies operating in offshore-energy service and maintenance.

The visit to CS Sovereign will also be attended by the Port Director, Matthew Hunt.

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About Global Marine Systems Limited

Global Marine Systems, the largest independent provider of submarine cables, installation, maintenance and related engineering services worldwide, has been in business for well over 160 years. Operating the world's largest fleet of cable ships and subsea vehicles, it is a market leader in marine cable installation, maintenance and related engineering services for offshore power, telecommunication and the oil and gas life industries. Global Marine is headquartered in the United Kingdom, with resources throughout Europe, Asia Pacific and the Americas.

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