

# Ensuring the voyage



Courtesy of Costa Crociere

When you enjoy a trip aboard a cruise ship you can only imagine what is going on behind the scenes. Safe and reliable power supply is needed for the essential services – and is also deputy to the main payload of the ship, hotel etc.

You can realize this in detail when the ship is going to drydock for the necessary scheduled or extraordinary maintenance, a call of duty to keep the vessel in operation and compliance.

The heart of the power control are the two main MV switchboards, port-side and starboard, connecting generators with all the other main electrical utilities.

In that complex and extremely challenging environment, stuckeGROUP, located in Hamburg, a global leader for control and protection systems since 1968, has been selected by Carnival Maritime GmbH for the retrofit of the medium voltage protection aboard two of their Costa Crociere ships. “We were looking for a partner who is able to handle both projects at the same time, one in Italy and one in France. Challenges are a tight schedule, very restricted space and no power cutoffs at any time as different retrofit works for cabins, restaurants etc. are going on at the same time. We chose stuckeGROUP because of their references and specialization” says Astrid Hoffmann, Senior Manager Strategic Sourcing of Carnival Maritime in Hamburg.

Costa Fascinosa and Costa Deliziosa were in drydock last November 2024. Scope of supply was to replace multiple devices with SYMAP®, a flexible digital protection and control device for low, medium and high voltage power systems, designed and made exclusively in Germany by stuckeGROUP. It has three powerful micro-processors, integrated protection functions and HMI interface. This efficient and cost-effective solution for all types of switchgear offers comprehensive protection and control functions for generators, transformers, motors, feeder, power lines, networks, DP systems, battery solutions etc. It has type approvals from common ship classification societies as well as type approval for cyber security and power management.

stuckeGROUP’s philosophy of a „one fits all” device is an optimal solution for this scope.

When approaching the two projects, it was clear that during drydock operations, restricted time and many companies working in the same area require good planning to optimize the replacement of devices. “The good cooperation and support we received from the electrical departments of the two cruise ships helped a lot during the whole assignment”, confirm stuckeGROUP Project Managers Filip Stanojev and Veljko Božić.

“They did an excellent job” says Guiseppe Aiello, Superintendent of

Costa Fascinosa, “from the installation of new doors for the switchboards to adapt to compact dimensions of the devices, embedded functionalities maintaining the same operation concept interfacing with the existing automation and controls, executed protection tests, provided spare parts and training of the technical crew to operate the new system.” And Roberto Cevasco, Superintendent of Costa Deliziosa adds: “stuckeGROUP adhered to all agreed timelines and really met our expectations as a leading global cruise company.”

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