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## Vale inaugurates the tugboat "Sossego" (with high resolution photos and video)

30 September - Today, at Ponta da Madeira Maritime Terminal, in São Luis, Maranhão state, Vale will hold a christening ceremony for the tugboat "Sossego," the first of 51 vessels the company has commissioned from Brazilian shipyards to ensure safety and competitiveness as it expands its port and maritime operations. The tug was built at Detroit Shipyard in Santa Catarina state.

Vale's orders with domestic shipyards amount to an investment of R\$403.9 million, thereby helping boost the Brazilian shipbuilding industry, creating 2,465 direct and indirect jobs. Besides Sossego, a further 14 tugboats are being built, as well as two barge convoys - composed of 32 barges and two push-boats - and two passenger transport catamarans.

The tugs - vessels that assist ship docking and undocking - will operate at Ponta da Madeira Maritime Terminal in Maranhão, Tubarão Complex in Espírito Santo state, and Ilha Guaíba Terminal in Mangaratiba, Rio de Janeiro state, where they will mainly work with iron ore transportation. The catamarans will transport Vale employees working at Ilha Guaíba Terminal. The barge convoys will serve Urucum Mine in Corumbá, Minas Gerais state, transporting ore from Brazil to Paraguay and Argentina along the Paraguay River.

Of the 15 new tugboats, 11 are being built at Detroit Shipyard in Itajaí, Santa Catarina, and the other four in Aracaju, Sergipe state, at Santa Cruz Shipyard. When they are built, Vale will have a total of 29 tugs. Building these vessels alone will generate 1,530 new jobs, including direct and indirect.

The other tugboats, the two convoys composed of 32 barges and the two push-boats, to be built at Rio-Maguari Shipyard in Belém, Pará state, and the two catamarans, under construction at Arpoador Shipyard in Angra dos Reis, are due to be completed over the course of the next two years. Building the convoys and catamarans will create 695 direct jobs, possibly reaching 795 at peak construction, with a further 140 indirect jobs.

These new vessels will enable Vale to meet growing demand for logistics services in coming years. Some of this growth will come from Pier IV at Ponta da Madeira, which is due to open in 2011. The pier - the largest port infrastructure construction project in Latin America - will create approximately 2,500 jobs during peak construction and 212 when it comes into operation.

### Sossego

The Sossego, which will be assigned to the fleet of tugs supporting operations at Ponta da Madeira Terminal, is one of the most modern and efficient to operate in Brazilian ports. The 75 ton-bollard pull vessel will raise the port's productivity and improve the safety of docking and undocking maneuvers of the largest bulk carriers that operate in the world.

The Sossego's godmother is Elisa Amália Silva, who has worked for 23 years at Vale, currently in the Port Operations Department.

Features of the tugboat Sossego:

Beam (width at widest point): 11.60 m

Molded depth (distance from base line to deck): 5.36 m

Length: 32 m

Maximum draft: 3.70 m

Bollard pull: 75 tons

Shipyard: Detroit Brasil LTDA, Itajaí, Santa Catarina

Classification society: RBNA

## Log-In

In 2007, Log-In Logística Intermodal, a company in which Vale holds a 31.3% interest, announced the construction of five container ships at Estaleiro Ilha S/A (EISA), in Ilha do Governador, Rio de Janeiro. The ships will each be able to hold 2,840 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units). Total investment is in the order of R\$700 million.

According to estimates from the state government of Rio de Janeiro, around 2,000 direct jobs and 6,000 indirect jobs will be generated during construction work. In 2008, Log-In announced the construction of another two ships, also in a Brazilian shipyard, to transport bauxite between the ports of Vila do Conde and Trombetas, in Amazonas state.

## More information

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