

Press Release

Copenhagen, 8 January 2026

Scandlines' new battery-powered ferry on the Puttgarden-Rødby route has been named:

The Baltic Whale to enter service shortly

Scandlines has officially named its new battery-powered freight ferry *The Baltic Whale*, which will soon enter operation on the Puttgarden-Rødby route. The vessel is among the world's largest battery-powered ferries and represents a significant milestone in Scandlines' long-term strategy to operate without direct emissions by 2040, while also increasing capacity for freight customers.

The Baltic Whale will shortly become part of daily operations on one of Scandlines' most important routes. With the new ferry, Scandlines takes another major step towards making the route more sustainable, while at the same time strengthening capacity and operational reliability for both freight and passenger traffic.

As one of the world's largest battery-powered ferries, The Baltic Whale is capable of operating the crossing with zero direct emissions. In addition, the vessel features reduced noise and underwater noise levels, benefiting both passenger comfort and the marine environment - including the harbour porpoise that inhabits the Baltic Sea and has inspired the ferry's name.

Following yard stays, sea trials and the naming ceremony, the vessel is now in the final phase of preparations ahead of entering service.

"The Baltic Whale marks an important step in Scandlines' green transformation and in our efforts to reduce direct emissions from our operations. At the same time, she has been designed to deliver what our customers expect from us every day: stability and high operational reliability on one of our key routes. We very much look forward to putting her into service on the Fehmarn Belt," says Michael Guldman Petersen, COO of Scandlines.

Purpose-built for freight and future operations

The Baltic Whale has been designed as a dedicated freight ferry with capacity for 66 freight units, trucks on both decks, and the ability to safely and efficiently transport dangerous goods such as industrial products and batteries. This allows more freight to be carried on a single vessel, freeing up capacity for cars and passengers on Scandlines' other ferries - particularly during peak periods.

With the introduction of the new ferry, Scandlines increases its freight capacity on the Puttgarden-Rødby route by 27 percent.

"For our freight customers, The Baltic Whale primarily means greater flexibility and improved conditions. With dedicated capacity for dangerous goods, efficient handling and high operational reliability, customers can consolidate different types of cargo into one solution and benefit from a simpler, more predictable and competitive



transport across the Fehmarn Belt, strengthening the freight link between the Nordic region and the rest of Europe," says Peter Leschly, SVP and Head of B2B at Scandlines.

The Baltic Whale completes the 18.5-kilometre crossing in approximately 45 minutes. Thanks to Scandlines' investment in new charging infrastructure, charging time is as short as 12 minutes in each port. The vessel is also equipped with diesel generators for use when required.

Facts about The Baltic Whale

- Length: 147.4 metres
- Beam: 25.4 metres
- Design draught: 5.30 metres
- Freight capacity: 66 freight units (1,200 lane metres)
- Maximum number of passengers: 140
- Service speed: 16/ 10 knots
- Crossing time: 45 minutes
- Battery system: 10 MWh
- Charging time in port: 12-18 minutes
- Project investment: EUR 84 million

About Scandlines

Scandlines operates two of Northern Europe's most important ferry routes and is firmly committed to the green transition. Since 2013, the company has invested more than EUR 375 million in emission-reducing technologies, including hybrid ferries, battery conversions, rotor sails, energy-efficient propellers and port electrification. With the deployment of The Baltic Whale on the Puttgarden-Rødby route, Scandlines takes another significant step towards a more sustainable future for ferry operations.

News in brief

Scandlines has named its new battery-powered freight ferry *The Baltic Whale*, which will soon enter service on the Puttgarden-Rødby route. The ferry is among the world's largest battery-powered vessels and can operate the crossing with zero direct emissions, while also reducing noise and underwater noise. Purpose-built for freight, The Baltic Whale has capacity for 66 freight units and increases total freight capacity on the route by 27 percent.