

**MERGER PLAN** 

## FOR A MERGER BETWEEN

DEEP SEA SUPPLY BTG AS (ACQUIRING COMPANY)

AND

DEEP SEA SUPPLY BTG B.V. (TRANSFEROR COMPANY)

Advokatfirmaet BA-HR DA \_\_\_\_\_ Advokatfirmaet BA-HR DA \_\_\_\_\_

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## 1. THE MERGING PARTIES

1.1 The transferor company: Org.no.: Official seat (statutaire zetel): Address:

Deep Sea Supply BTG B.V. 55122620 Rotterdam, the Netherlands Steupelstraat 32, 3065 JE Rotterdam, the Netherlands

1.2 The acquiring company: Org.no.: Business municipality (official seat): Address: Deep Sea Supply BTG AS 914 274 133 Grimstad, Norway Storgaten 4, 4876 Grimstad, Norway

## 2. INTRODUCTION: THE MERGER, THE PARTIES AND THE REASONS FOR THE MERGER

The merger is one of four parallel mergers, relocating a Dutch company structure to Norway. The mergers will be carried out through an initial merger of the Norwegian and Dutch parent companies (being Deep Sea Supply BTG AS (the "Acquiring Company") and Deep Sea Supply BTG B.V. (the "Transferor Company")), followed by three mergers of the three Dutch subsidiaries into three acquiring Norwegian subsidiaries. All the four mergers will be completed on the same date with the merger between the Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company being the first merger to be completed on that date.

The reasons for the merger between the Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company is that the group has decided to relocate its operations to Norway because Norway is deemed to be a more rational location for the group going forward considering the group's current business and future development plans.

The Acquiring Company is a Norwegian private limited liability company (*aksjeselskap*). The Transferor Company is a Dutch private limited liability company (*besloten vennootschap met beperkte aansprakelijkheid*). The Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company are (and will continue to be) owned 50 per cent by Sagale Beteiligungsverwaltungs GmbH ("Sagale") and 50 per cent by Deep Sea Supply PLC ("DESS PLC"), both at the date of approval of the merger plan and at the effective date of the merger.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MERGER

## 3.1 Implementation in terms of company and tax law

The merger is to be implemented pursuant to the provisions in §§ 13-25 to 13-36 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act cf. § 13-25 of the Norwegian Private Limited Liability Companies Act and Title 2.7.1, 2.7.2, 2.7.3 and 2.7.3A of the Dutch Civil Code.

The merger is contingent upon compliance with principles of tax continuity according to Dutch and Norwegian law.

Upon completion of the merger, the Acquiring Company will acquire all of the Transferor Company's assets, rights, obligations and liabilities. Simultaneously with completion of the merger, the Transferor Company will cease to exist as a consequence of the merger becoming effective.

## 3.2 Merger consideration. Amendments to the capital and articles of association of the Acquiring Company

As of the date of this merger plan DESS PLC holds 146,220,110 shares, numbered 1 up to and including 9,000 and 18,001 up to and including 146,229,110 in the Transferor Company, each share with a nominal value of EUR 1.

Sagale also holds 146,220,110 shares, numbered 9,001 up to and including 18,000 and 146,229,111 up to and including 292,440,220 in the Transferor Company, each share with a nominal value of EUR 1.

As of the date of this merger plan DESS PLC holds 15 shares in the Acquiring Company, each share with a nominal value of NOK 1,000.

Sagale also holds 15 shares in the Acquiring Company, each share with a nominal value of NOK 1,000.

Immediately prior to completion of the merger, the nominal value of each share in the Acquiring Company will be reduced from NOK 1,000 to NOK 1. The capital decrease is contingent upon the merger being implemented.

As merger consideration to the shareholders in the Transferor Company, the Acquiring Company will increase the nominal value of each share in the Acquiring Company from NOK 1 to NOK 70,779.10 (rounded) making the aggregate nominal value of the 30 shares NOK 2,123,373. In addition, share premium per share will be increased from NOK 0 to NOK 70,708,334.08 (rounded) making the aggregate share premium of the 30 shares NOK 2,121,250,022. After completion of the merger, the total share capital contribution (nominal value and share premium) in the Acquiring Company will thus be NOK 2,123,373,395. The consideration to the shareholders in the Transferor Company by way of increase of the share capital in the Acquiring Company is based on the fair value of the Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company, and will take place upon completion of the merger (i.e., when the merger is registered as completed in the Norwegian Register of Business Enterprises).

The capital increase in the Acquiring Company will be deemed subscribed for by the approval of the merger plan by the general meeting in the Transferor Company, according to § 13-3 (3), cf. § 13-25 (2) nr. 2 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act. The share deposit for the capital increase will be settled by the receipt by the Acquiring Company of the Transferor Company's assets, rights, obligations and liabilities upon completion of the merger (i.e., at the time of registration of completion of the merger in the Norwegian Register of Business Enterprises). No additional payments in cash will be made by the Acquiring Company.

In connection with the merger and the assessment of the exchange ratio, the board of directors of the Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company have arranged for preparation of a valuation of the fair value of the merging companies.

The value of the assets, rights, obligations and liabilities transferred to the Acquiring Company, are estimated according to the estimated fair value of the Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company at the time of signing of the merger plan by the two companies' boards of directors. The valuation is based on the value of the shares held by each of the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company in their respective subsidiaries. The value of the Transferor Company's shares in the subsidiaries of the Transferor Company have been determined on the basis of the value of the subsidiaries' assets, rights, obligations and liabilities based on valueadjusted balance sheets as of 31 January 2015 prepared by the management company of the group. The management company of the group has obtained valuation reports for the vessels from two independent ship brokers dated 31 January 2015. Contracts have been valued based on a discounted cash flow method for the period of the contract (firm and option) as further described in the valuation report from the management company of the group. This valuation report also serves as the basis for the board of directors' valuation of the assets, rights, obligations and liabilities to be transferred to the Acquiring Company and the merger consideration to be provided to the shareholders in the merger. The board of directors are of the view that even if the valuation is based on numbers and values as per 31 January 2015, the market has been sufficiently stable to base the valuation as per the date of this merger plan on the same values.

Since the only asset held by the Acquiring Company is the amount held in the Acquiring Company's bank account and the shares in three subsidiaries whose only assets are the amounts held in each subsidiary's respective bank account, the value of the Acquiring Company has been set to the aggregate amount held in these four bank accounts.

Pursuant to Dutch law, the date of balance sheets used to establish the conditions of the merger is 31 December 2014. The interim balance sheet for the Transferor Company is attached hereto as <u>Appendix 2.1</u> and the interim balance sheet for the Acquiring Company is attached hereto as <u>Appendix 1.2</u>.

## 3.3 Rights and compensations at the expense of the Acquiring Company granted pursuant to Section 2:320 of the Dutch Civil Code

As there are no persons who, in any other capacity than as shareholder, have special rights against the Transferor Company, no special rights and no compensation will be granted at the expense of the Acquiring Company to anyone.

3.4 Benefits to be granted to a member of the board of directors of the Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company, or to another party involved with the merger, in connection with the merger

None.

3.5 Intentions with regard to the composition of the board of directors of the Acquiring Company after the merger

There is no intention to change the composition of the board of directors after the merger.

The present composition of the board of directors in the Acquiring Company is as follows:

- Harald Thorstein (chairman of the board of directors)
- Jon Are Gummedal
- Anders Hall Jomaas
- Lucas Martinelli
- Pedro Jereissati
- Alvaro Novis

#### 3.6 Contemplated continuation or termination of activities

The activities of the Transferor Company will be continued by the Acquiring Company. Thus, the merger is not expected to have any effect on employment.

#### 3.7 Corporate approvals of the terms of merger

The resolution to effect the merger in conformity with the terms of the merger plan is subject to the following approvals, according to \$13-25 to \$ 13-26 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act cf. \$ 13-25 of the Norwegian Private Limited Liability Companies Act and sections 2:312, 2:317 and 2:330 of the Dutch Civil Code:

- (a) Merger plan approval from the board of directors of the Transferor Company.
- (b) Merger plan approval from the board of directors of the Acquiring Company.
- (c) Merger plan approval from the general meeting of the Transferor Company.
- (d) Merger plan approval from the general meeting of the Acquiring Company.
- 3.8 Shares to be cancelled pursuant to Section 2:325 paragraph 3 of the Dutch Civil \_\_\_\_\_Code\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 
  Not applicable.

# 3.9 Consequences of the merger for holders of shares without voting rights and holders of shares without profit rights

None, as the Transferor Company has not issued shares without voting rights, nor shares without profit rights.

## 3.10 Effects of the merger on the goodwill and the distributable reserves of the Acquiring Company

There are no effects of the merger on the goodwill and the distributable reserves of the Acquiring Company due to the accounting continuity set out in item 3.13 below.

## 3.11 Proposal for the level of compensation of shareholders

No compensation for shareholders that vote against the proposal to effectuate the merger is proposed, as it is not expected that votes will be cast against this proposal.

## 3.12 **Procedures for employee participation**

No rules concerning employee participation in Dutch or Norwegian law are applicable to the Transferor Company nor the Acquiring Company, as neither of the companies have any employees. Thus, no employee participation arrangements will have to be performed.

## 3.13 Completion of the merger for accounting purposes

The merger will be implemented with full continuity for tax purposes pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Norwegian Taxation Act. As a general principle, Dutch tax law follows the corporate law consequences of the merger. From a Dutch corporate law perspective, the Transferor Company ceases to exist - without going into liquidation - and the Acquiring Company acquires the assets, rights, obligations and liabilities (including tax obligations) of the Transferor Company.

The merger entails a reorganisation with unchanged ownership and shall be accounted for pursuant to the pooling of interest method, cf. the principles in § 10-12 (1) last sentence of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act and section 6.2 of NRS 9 Fusjon (the Norwegian Accounting Standard Board - NASB 9 Merger). The values of assets, rights, obligations and liabilities of the Transferor Company as entered in the balance sheet shall thus be continued in the Acquiring Company.

## 3.14 Effective date

As of 1 January 2015 transactions in the Transferor Company will, in terms of accounting, be deemed to be made for the account of the Acquiring Company cf. § 13-26 (2) no. 6 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act. The last financial year of the Transferor Company will therefore end on 31 December 2014.

Pursuant to Norwegian company law, the merger will take effect on the date it has been registered as completed with the Norwegian Register of Business Enterprises, cf. § 13-33 (2) and § 13-32 (1) of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act. As from the registered completion date:

- (a) The Transferor Company ceases to exist;
- (b) The share capital in the Acquiring Company is increased;

(c) The assets, rights, obligations and liabilities of the Transferor Company are transferred to the Acquiring Company;

(d) The shares in the Transferor Company are changed to shares in the Acquiring Company, and the shares in the Transferor Company will thereby cease to exist; and

(e) The merger will be implemented with continuity for tax purposes pursuant to the provisions in Chapter 11 of the Norwegian Taxation Act.

### 4. CONDITIONS FOR EXERCISING SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS AND DIVIDEND RIGHTS

As registered shareholders in the Transferor Company at the time of registration of completion of the merger, DESS PLC and Sagale may from the same time exercise its rights as shareholders in the Acquiring Company and is entitled to dividends and other distributions on the shares in the Acquiring Company resolved after the registration of completion of the merger. The shareholder register of the Acquiring Company shall be updated without undue delay after the registration of completion of the merger.

Except as set out above, no special rights or conditions apply in respect of distributions from the shares in the Acquiring Company or in respect of the right to exercise any other shareholder rights.

#### 5. SPECIAL RIGHTS

No shareholder has any special rights in the Transferor Company. The Transferor Company has not issued any subscription rights as mentioned in § 11-1, § 11-10 or § 11-12 of the Norwegian Private Limited Liability Companies Act or pursuant to similar provisions under Dutch law.

No special rights or benefits will devolve on external experts, the members of the board of directors or the chief executive officer or other decision makers in connection with the merger.

## 6. **PROHIBITION ON DISTRIBUTIONS**

From the time of signing of the merger plan until the registration of completion of the merger, neither the Transferor Company nor the Acquiring Company has the right to pay dividends or make other distributions on the shares without the consent of all shareholders in both of the Acquiring Company and the Transferor Company.

### -7. COSTS RELATED TO THE MERGER-

The Acquiring Company shall cover the costs related to the merger.

#### 8. REPORT ON THE MERGER AND THE MERGER PLAN

#### 8.1 Merger report

The board of directors of the Acquiring Company has prepared a report on the merger in accordance with § 13-27 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liabilities Company Act.

The report is enclosed as <u>Appendix 1.1</u> and shall be made available to the shareholders of the Acquiring Company no later than one month prior to date when the general meeting of the Acquiring Company will consider the merger plan.

The shareholders in each of the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company have by their signed confirmations (<u>Appendices 2.3 and 1.5</u>) agreed that no merger report will be drawn up by the board of directors of the Transferor Company.

## 8.2 External report on the merger plan

The shareholders in each of the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company have by its signed confirmation on the merger plan attached hereto as <u>Appendices</u> 2.3 and 1.5 agreed that:

- no examination of the merger plan in the meaning of section 2:328 paragraph
   1 of the Dutch Civil Code by an independent auditor will take place;
- (ii) there will be no opinion of an independent auditor with respect to the fairness of the share exchange ratio in the meaning of section 2:328 paragraph 1 of the Dutch Civil Code;
- (iii) there will be no report of an independent auditor with respect to the merger report of the board of directors of the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company in the meaning of section 2:328 paragraph 2 of the Dutch Civil Code; and
- (iv) no expert statement according to § 13-28 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liabilities Act shall be prepared.

## 9. ACCOUNTS AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The current articles of association of the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company are attached hereto as <u>Appendices 2.2 and 1.3</u>.

The articles of association of the Acquiring Company from the time of completion of the merger are attached hereto as <u>Appendix 1.4</u>.

The Transferor Company was established in 2012 and has not prepared any audited annual accounts or annual reports as per the date of this merger plan. The Transferor Company has filed its unaudited annual accounts for the years 2012 and 2013 with the Dutch trade register.

The Acquiring Company was established in 2014, but has not had any operations prior to the date of this merger plan and has thus not prepared any annual accounts or annual reports as per the date of this merger plan.

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#### 18 March 2015

The board of directors of the Transferor Company

Name: Pedro Jereissati Title: Management board member A Name: Harald Lauritz Thorstein Title: Management board member B

Name:Lucas Caulliraux MartinelliTitle:Management board member A

Name: Anders Hall Jomaas Title: / Management board member B

The board of directors of the Acquiring Company

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Name: Harald Lauritz Thorstein Title: Chairman of the Board Name: Pedro Jereissati Title: Board member

Name: Alvaro Novis Title: Board member Name: Lucas Caulliraux Martinelli Title: Board member

Name: Jon Are Gummedal Title: Board member Name: Anders Hall Jomaas Title: Board member .

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18 March 2015

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Name: Jon Are Gummedal Title: Board member -

Name: Anders Hall Jomaas Title: Board member

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Title: Board member

Title: Board member

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The undersigned, being the shareholders of all the shares in both the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company hereby give their consent to the fact that no external report on the merger plan will be prepared pursuant to \$ 13-28 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act. This consent applies both to the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company in the merger.

### 18 March 2015

For Deep Sea Supply PLC Name: Title:

Kuntillitushin Name: HARALD L. THORSTEIN

Title: CNAIRMAN

18 March 2015

#### For Sagale Beteiligungsverwaltungs GmbH

Name:

Title:

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Name:

Title:

The undersigned, being the shareholders of all the shares in both the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company hereby give their consent to the fact that no external report on the merger plan will be prepared pursuant to § 13-28 of the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act. This consent applies both to the Transferor Company and the Acquiring Company in the merger.

## 18 March 2015

## For Deep Sea Supply PLC

Name:

Name:

Title:

Title:

18 March 2015

For Sagale Beteiligungsverwaltungs GmbH

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WM INANNEW

Name: Wichs MACHIVALLI

Title:

Name: Title:	_

## APPENDICES TO THE MERGER PLAN

- 1. FOR THE ACQUIRING COMPANY
- 1.1 Merger report from the board of directors in the Acquiring Company
- 1.2 Interim balance sheet for the Acquiring Company
- 1.3 Current articles of association of the Acquiring Company
- 1.4 Articles of association of the Acquiring Company from the effective date of the merger

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1.5 Shareholder statement for the Acquiring Company

## 2. FOR THE TRANSFEROR COMPANY

- 2.1 Interim balance sheet for the Transferor Company
- 2.2 Current articles of association of the Transferor Company
- 2.3 Shareholder statement for the Transferor Company

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