

## **GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR**

Ministry of Enterprise, Development, Technology and Transport

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Gibraltar

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Gibraltar to be represented at Seatrade Europe convention in Hamburg

The Gibraltar Port Authority will be participating in the Seatrade Europe Conference and Exhibition, recognised as Europe's leading meeting place for the cruise, ferry, river-cruise and superyacht industries.

The event opens on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September at the Hamburg Messe Fairground in Germany and consists of 4 days of conference and exhibition with over 1000 companies from 100 different countries represented.

The Gibraltar delegation will be headed by Captain Peter Hall, Captain of the Port and Albert Poggio, Director of the London Office who will be attending a meeting of the European Cruise Council and fulfilling a pre-arranged programme of meetings.

The Gibraltar Port Authority will have its own stand – number 822 in the cruise destinations pavilion of the trade show and will also be represented as a member of the MedCruise organisation.

The Minister for Transport, with responsibility for the Port, the Hon J J Holliday, said: "The European cruise market continues to grow. Gibraltar too is set to break its record of cruise passenger arrivals this year with an expected 247 calls carrying almost 380,000 passengers. However, the cruise industry has not escaped the effects of the economic downturn and this will be noticed next year, with fewer passengers booking cruise holidays for 2010. Despite the possible effects of this downturn it is important for Gibraltar to market itself to cruise companies as a primary cruise destination in the Mediterranean. Seatrade Europe 2009 provides Gibraltar with the most appropriate platform on which to do this."

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