

► Breaking news!

Two aft split oil lubricated stern-tube seals type **SeaQual**, size 23, was recently installed on the M/V "Ragnhild Knutsen".

On October 19-20th, during a period of 36 hours, two service engineers from "Cedervall & Söner AB" dismantled the existing seals and mounted the new **SeaQual** seals on the 530mm shafts.

The remarkable thing was not the fact that a customer selected to exchange the existing seals for the new **SeaQual**, this has become more and more frequent, but the fact that it was done at such speed and with the ship afloat. The twinscrew tanker "Ragnhild Knutsen" was moored to a buoy at the entrance to Europort in Rotterdam with the North Sea at the back and with swell from passing ships making the job more exiting. The building of the platforms, trimming of the ship as well as removal and remounting of the rope guards were carried out by the crew and local companies.

An owner that selects the **SeaQual** is, as can be seen from above story, more flexible in choosing the location of the site for a retrofit and will benefit from the big advantages of the new seal that Cedervall is proud to present:

SeaQual, that has a revolutionary new feature; the built in pressure equalizer. **SeaQual** is the first stern-tube seal ever with this kind of device.

The pressure equalizer compensates for the pressure variations that normally occur in the stern-tube. Cedervall seals have always been designed to tolerate axial and radial shaft movements normally experienced in the shaft line. Now, with the **SeaQual**, we can also accept and compensate pressure pulses that occur. The ability to ensure that the stern-tube is pressurised only by static pressure from the gravity tank, provides an excellent and trouble free operation of the system.

The **SeaQual** is equipped with separate sealing faces. This enables easy mounting and dismantling of spare parts.

Separate free-floating sealing faces provide great benefits to the face-to-face seal principle. Besides acting as stator the white metal face functions as a working surface for the newly developed X-ring. This means that two sealing surfaces have been combined in to one component, thus reducing the number of spare parts.

The **SeaQual** is of course made in a fully split execution, which enables complete dismantling and/or mounting - without shaft or propeller removal.

The conclusion is that **SeaQual** represents a lifetime guarantee against undesired shaft removals.

