

## PRESS RELEASE

### SIGMAGLIDE FOR 'ELLEN MAERSK' FPSO

#### AMSTERDAM – JUNE 2007

SigmaKalon Marine & Protective Coatings (SigmaKalon MPC) are pleased to announce to have secured the contract to supply paint for the conversion of the 308.000 DWT VLCC "Ellen Maersk" from A.P.Møller – Mærsk into an FPSO for Maersk Contractors, at Keppel Tuas Shipyard in Singapore. The FPSO will be operating for Woodside Petroleum at the Vincent Field in Northwestern Australia, and will be on station early 2008.

As the Vincent Field is located close to the Ningaloo Marine Park, with a sensitive marine life, Maersk Contractors have chosen to use SigmaGlide™ for the underwater area, in order not to negatively influence the marine environment. As the fouling release properties of SigmaGlide™ makes cleaning operations easier, compared to conventional antifoulings, the product is well suited for an FPSO.

With it's approximately 29.000 squaremeter underwater area, this is not only the first FPSO to be coated with SigmaGlide™, but also the biggest SigmaGlide™ application to date.

#### **SigmaGlide**

SigmaGlide™ is one of the most innovative fouling release products launched on the market and one of the key product ranges in SigmaKalon's marine assortment. It plays an important role at the high end of the coatings market and was launched after a very extensive research and development process.

SigmaGlide™ has a revolutionary approach to biocide free fouling control. Unlike other conventional fouling protection technology, SigmaGlide™ uses no biocides. Instead, this two-component silicone elastomeric system delivers a new and effective performance by exploiting the intrinsic properties of low surface energy. SigmaGlide™ is a coating with radically different characteristics; once applied it produces a slick, slippery hull surface to which macro and algal fouling have difficulty adhering. This fouling may settle, but once the vessel moves, water motion will cause the fouling to detach.

In case of a static object like the Maersk FPSO, the slippery hull that SigmaGlide™ produces allows for easy cleaning, using 'on-site' equipment that will wipe off any fouling that may have settled, without damaging the protective properties SigmaGlide™ offers.

As the SigmaGlide™ range is biocide-free it is more environmentally acceptable than the use of biocide-releasing technologies. This also makes it eminently suitable for use in the environmental compliance program's of major ship-owners and managers.

In addition the high solids content (low volatile organic content) and long service lifetime contribute to its success.