

## Petroleum on the move in Burrard Inlet

North Vancouver's Cates Tugs (a Washington Marine Group company) dispatched two tugs, the CHARLES H. CATES I and the CHARLES H. CATES II, to assist Omega Navigation Enterprises 748' x 106' 71,500 dwt double-hulled Panamax (LR1) tanker OMEGA LADY MIRIAM out of the Kinder Morgan Westridge petroleum terminal in Burnaby on the south side of Burrard Inlet in Burnaby. The CATES II and CATES I are the first and second, respectively, of the three sister 73'6" x 28' x 12' 2400-hp Z-drive shipdocking tugs designed by Robert Allan Ltd. for Cates Tugs. They were also the Vancouver naval architectural firm's first Z-drive tugs. The prototype CATES II was launched by Allied Shipbuilders in 1983 and had 38 tonnes bollard pull ahead. The CATES I (Westcoast Manly Shipyard, 1986) and CATES III (Allied Shipbuilders, 1990) followed. The three evolved with shallow draft, low lateral resistance, fairly light displacement and wide beam to make them highly manoeuvrable and capable of being pulled sideways without tripping. All were fitted with twin Niigata Z-drive thrusters. After working the OMEGA LADY MIRIAM, the CHARLES H. CATES I assisted a Crowley Maritime ATB unit into the Westridge terminal. The OCEAN RELIANCE is of Crowley's 129'6" x 42' x 19' (9280 hp in twin Caterpillar 3612 B diesels) 'RELIANCE' class of pusher tugs. The refined petroleum product barge 550-3 is of the 500' x 74' x 27'6" 155,000-barrel, double-hulled '550'-class. The 'RELIANCE' tugs and the '550' barges were designed as a dedicated ATB unit (connected by the Intercon articulating pin system) for operations on the North American west coast. The unit has a 593-ft overall length and 12-knot service speed. According to a Port Metro Vancouver website the Kinder Morgan Westridge marine terminal imports and stores aviation turbine fuel for delivery to Vancouver International Airport via Kinder Morgan's jet fuel pipeline. The terminal also handles crude petroleum which Kinder Morgan transmits through the Trans Mountain Pipeline system which originates in Edmonton.



PHOTOS BY ROB MORRIS

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