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CLEAN SEAS SAILS INTO THE EUROPEAN MARKET ABOARD AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST HARVEST BOAT

The South Australian aquaculture industry's assault on the growing European food market has been boosted with the commissioning of a new multi-million dollar finfish harvesting vessel – the largest of its kind in Australia.

A major \$500,000 re-build undertaken by aquaculture producer, the Stehr Group, has seen the 'Sanchez J' widened and lengthened, fitted with bow and stern thrusters and refitted internally to create a purpose-built platform for mulloway and kingfish harvesting Boston Bay and Arno Bay on South Australia's Spencer Gulf.

Specifically, the vessel will support the expanding activities of recently-listed aquaculture company, Clean Seas Tuna Limited.

Clean Seas Chairman, Mr Hagen Stehr AO, said the vessel would provide key infrastructure support for the company's expansion.

He said it would allow Clean Seas to meet international and domestic demand for kingfish – which was particularly sought-after in Europe.

"This vessel has been specifically re-designed to meet international environmental standards of ISO 14001 and increasing international demand for our mulloway and kingfish," Mr Stehr said.

"It will allow us to harvest 30 tonnes a day and has a state-of-the-art pumping system to pump fish directly from the sea, so they are never stressed when caught."

Mr Stehr said the vessel would further boost the quality of fish caught, and underpin the State's growing international reputation as a world-class aquaculture producer.

"This is exactly what we need to increase and sustain our ability to supply the highest quality fish to the domestic and international markets," Mr Stehr said.

"Clean Seas is leading the charge – and we have only just started."

Clean Seas Sails into the European Market on Australia's Largest Harvest Boat

Clean Seas Tuna Limited listed on the Australian Stock Exchange at an 11% premium in December, 2005.

The funds raised from the IPO are being used to:

- Expand Clean Seas' existing business of breeding and growing kingfish and mulloway;
- Upgrade Clean Seas' existing hatchery complex at Arno Bay in South Australia to allow the breeding of Southern Bluefin Tuna ("SBT"); and
- To breed and growout SBT from its own broodstock.

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