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**PRESS RELEASE**

**INTERNATIONAL**

**2 April 2008**

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## **SUPERSTAR VIRGO, THE FLAGSHIP OF STAR CRUISES ASIAN FLEET, ARRIVED IN HONGKONG TODAY**

Star Cruises, the world's third largest cruise operator and Asia's leading cruise liner, officially announced today the arrival of the redeployed vessel, SuperStar Virgo, the largest and most luxurious cruise ship in her Asian fleet. To commemorate this special event, Star Cruises has organized a special welcoming ceremony. Mr. Frederick Ma, JP, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, was invited to be the guest of honor and was accompanied by Mr. David Chua, President of Star Cruises Group to witness this historical moment.

Star Cruises has brought further variety and applause of cruising experience to customers in the region through a series of strategic fleet deployment since last June to have its vessels call at more different ports and destinations. The move of the Superstar Virgo's homeport to Hong Kong is indeed the most important act in the fleet deployment, which not only marks our support in action to the development of Hong Kong as an international cruise hub, but also realizes the commitment and endeavour of Star Cruises to Hong Kong's cruise industry, and the initiative to explore more novel and surprising experience for Hong Kong and the Greater China tourists.

Mr. David Chua, President of Star Cruises Group said, "Being a company that has been around for the past 15 years in Hong Kong and Asia, we truly believe that we are embarking on a new and exciting chapter in the Asian cruise industry. We believe that the Asia's demographics, emerging new ports and cruise terminals in cities like Xiamen, Sanya, Shanghai and the HK government tender for the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal and Singapore Marina South Cruise Terminal project, all these will contribute to the dynamic growth in Asian cruise business. These major port cities in Asia have stated their claim and all looking forward to becoming an important cruise hub."

SuperStar Virgo is deservedly the flagship of Star Cruises Asian fleet. She is equipped with a 7-storey high grand and magnificent lobby, ancient Greek style out-door swimming pool, a one thousand-seat theater, a golf driving range at the top open deck etc. The latest adding is a rock climbing facility. Star Cruises, the only international



cruise brand name originated in Asia, understands the needs of the Asian cruisers best. SuperStar Virgo is purposely-built for the Asian touch, excelling and having its edge over other same class international cruise liners in its tailor-made onboard entertainment and traditional local Asian cuisines. Customers will truly indulge in their own cruising fun. "World-class cruising, My way" is her label.

SuperStar Virgo will start a series of seasonal cruise comprising of 2-night cruise to Xiamen in China and 3-night to Sanya in China & Halong Bay in Vietnam from 2 April onwards. To match Star Cruises' developing plan of cross-strait cruise, there will also be four special cruises to Keelung, Taiwan in April, June, July and September.

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#### **About SuperStar Virgo**

SuperStar Virgo, at 76,800-grt, is the largest cruise ship in Star Cruises Asian fleet, currently home-ported in Hong Kong and calls to the port of Xiamen, Sanya and Halong Bay.

With 13-storey high, SuperStar Virgo offers 980 cabins of 1,870 passenger capacity. The full range facilities include 13 restaurants and bars offer international cuisine which satisfy all tastes, show lounge, cinema, karaoke, disco, swimming pool, water fun pool and jacuzzi, beauty salon, rock climbing facility and meeting rooms. The endless entertainment program onboard guarantees spectacular cruising experience to families, youths, the newlyweds and incentive groups.

SuperStar Virgo is 268m long, 32.2m wide and its average cruising speed is 24kn.

#### **ABOUT STAR CRUISES**

Star Cruises, the leading cruise line in Asia-Pacific and the third largest cruise operator in the world, is a global cruise brand with a combined fleet of 20 ships with over 32,000 lower berths in service with an additional 2 ships and some 8,400 lower berths due to be delivered by 2010, cruising to destinations and islands in Asia-Pacific, North and South America, Hawaii, Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Mediterranean and Bermuda under the Star Cruises and Norwegian Cruise Line.

Star Cruises is represented in more than 20 locations worldwide. Headquartered in Hong Kong, offices and representatives have been set up in China, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan,



*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific<sup>SM</sup>*

Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, India, United Arab Emirates, New Zealand, Australia, Sweden, the UK and the USA.

*Previous press releases and announcements issued by Star Cruises may be viewed at Star Cruises' website [www.starcruises.com](http://www.starcruises.com).*



SuperStar Virgo, the largest and most luxurious cruise ship in Star Cruises Asian fleet, arrived in Hong Kong today and will stay for 6 months.



1501 Ocean Centre, 5 Canton Road, Tsimshatsui, Hong Kong. Reservations: (852) 2317 7711 Fax:(852) 2314 8327, (852) 2314 8251



*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific<sup>SM</sup>*

Mr. David Chua, President of Star Cruises (left), Mr. Frederick Ma, JP, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (middle) and Mr. Anthony Lau, Executive Director of Hong Kong Tourism Board (2nd right) joined Star Cruises' management to welcome the arrival of SuperStar Virgo.

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