

**SHIPPING**

# TTA buys Supramax vessel

Thoresen Shipping Singapore Pte Ltd, wholly owned by the SET-listed Thoresen Thai Agencies (TTA), has acquired an eight-year-old Supramax dry bulk vessel for US\$20 million.

The acquisition of M.V. Thor Mercury expands Thoresen Shipping's fleet to 19 vessels including 11 Supramax vessels, with an average size of 49,269 dead weight tonnes (DWT) and average age of 10.9 years.

Previously dubbed the M.V. Medi Chennai, the 55,862-DWT vessel was built in October 2005 by Kawasaki Shipbuilding Corporation in Japan. It is the eighth vessel of its kind in Thoresen Shipping's fleet, said TTA.

Like its sister vessels, it can be used to carry all general bulk cargo.

Ian Claxton, managing director of Thoresen Shipping, said the acquisition is its fifth since its fleet renewal plan started 18 months ago.

"This newest addition to our increasingly standardised and efficient fleet allows us to benefit from economies of scale through enhanced operating efficiencies and an increasingly specialised level of expertise within our market segment," said Mr Claxton.

Shares of TTA closed yesterday on the Stock Exchange of Thailand at 17.80 baht, down 10 satang, in trade worth 63.97 million baht.