

Bollinger Delivers Articulated Tug and Barge Unit to Crowley Fuels

LOCKPORT, La. – Bollinger Shipyards Lockport delivered an articulated tug-barge (ATB) unit capable of transporting multiple clean petroleum products in the Alaska market to Crowley Fuels, the Alaska-based petroleum transportation, distribution and sales unit of Crowley Maritime Corp.

Crowley Shipping provided vessel construction management services in Bollinger Marine Fabricators, Bollinger's Amelia, Louisiana, facility from the final design phase through delivery. The company's Seattle-based naval architecture and marine engineering firm, Jensen Maritime, provided the functional design. Bollinger's engineering team provided the integration, detail design and construction package.

"On behalf of our skilled workforce, along with a strong operational support group, the Bollinger team is proud to have built this ATB for Crowley Fuels," said Ben Bordelon, Bollinger Shipyards president and CEO. "Contracts like this to build Jones Act-classed ATB units, create and protect many jobs for U.S. mariners, shipyards and ancillary vendors, and that strengthens our local and regional industrial base."

The Alaska-class ATB unit consists of one twin Z-Drive, 7,000-horsepower ocean tugboat paired with an ocean barge.

The ATB was designed and built to meet ice class and polar code requirements, which include increased structural framing and shell plating and extended zero discharge endurance. The double-hulled design also features a barge form factor to achieve high-cargo capacity on minimal draft.

The tug is fitted with two GE 8L250 main engines that meet U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Tier 4 emissions standards. The generators on the tug and barge meet EPA Tier 3 and IMO Tier II emissions standards. In addition, a closed loop, freshwater ballast system will eliminate the need to discharge tug ballast water into the sea.