

EXPRESS 4: Ro-pax

Shipbuilder:	. Austal Pty Ltd
Vessel's name:	
Owner/Operator:	
Country:	Denmark
Designer:	Austal
Country:	Δustralia
Model test establishment used:	
	Basin Ltd.
Flag:	Denmark
IMÖ number:	9824564
Total number of sister ships alre	ady completed
(excluding ship presented):	Nil

January 2019 saw a new record set for Australian shipbuilder Austal, when it delivered the ro-pax catamaran *Express 4* to Danish ferry operator Molslinjen.

At 109m in length, Express 4 is some 17.7m shorter than the 2005-built Benichigua Express – the longest vessel type Austal has designed and built. Yet at 11,345gt, the new fast ferry is more than 2,550gt larger than Benichigua Express and almost 1,000gt larger than the next largest Austal-built ship.

The ferry has an overall length of 109m, a waterline length of 105m, a moulded beam of 30.5m, a moulded depth of 7.6m, and a maximum draught of 3.4m.

Express 4 is based on Austal's proven catamaran platform but features a new optimised hull shape and reduced weight designed to deliver better performance and greater fuel efficiency. It is the first Austal design to feature two full car decks, which accounts for the large increase in gross tonnage over earlier vessels.

The car decks can accommodate 425 cars or 610 lane metres for trucks and 232 cars. The main vehicle deck has a clearance height of 4.6m while the mezzanine deck has a clearance of 2.1m. Maximum passenger capacity is 1,006 persons.

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The vessel is fitted with four MAN Energy Solutions 20V 28/33D STC engines featuring sequential turbocharging and producing 9,100kW each at 1,000rpm. The power is transmitted through four ZF reduction gearboxes to four Wärtsilä LJX 1500 SRI waterjets. The arrangement gives a service speed of 40knots and during testing achieved a top speed of 47.8knots.

A similar vessel was ordered by Fjord Line of Norway to be built at Austal Philippines, using the same hull enhancements. In October 2019, Molslinjen contracted for an even larger 115m vessel that will have a slightly increased vehicle capacity and space for 1,610 passengers.

TECHNICAL PARTICULARS Length oa: 109m Length bp: 105m

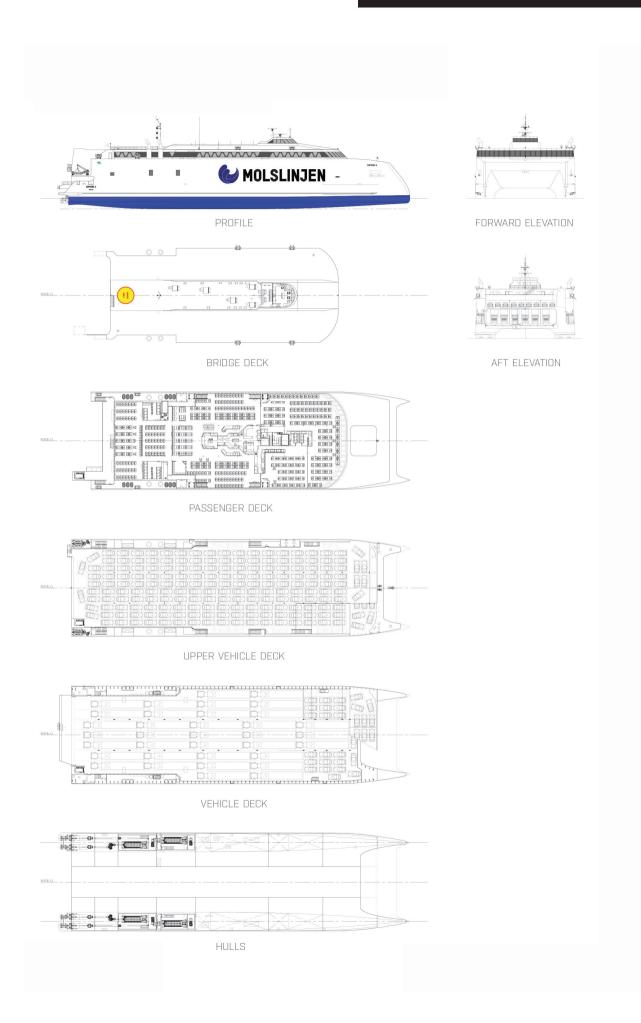
Breadth moulded: 30.5m Depth moulded: 7.60m to main deck: 7.6m
Draught design: 3.9m Gross: 11,345gt Displacement: 2,500t Lightweight: 1,500t Deadweight: 1,000t Block co-efficient: 0.61 Speed, service: 37knots at 75% MCR Bunkers (m³) Diesel oil: 598.512m³
Classification society and notations:1A HSLC R1 Ferry B EO
Heel control equipment: Transom trim tabs Roll-stabilization equipment: Transom trim tabs
Propulsion Main engine(s) Design: MAN Model: 20V 20/33D STC Manufacturer: MAN Number: 4 Type of fuel: Marine diesel oil Output of each engine: 9,100kW@1,000rpm. Is this a diesel-electric or hybrid?: No
Gearbox(es) ZF Make: ZF Model: 60000 NR2H Number: 4 Output speed: 470rpm
Waterjet(s) Material:Stainless steel Designer/Manufacturer:Wärtsilä LJX1500 Number:4
Hydraulic Steering Layout:2 x mechanical linked jetivators
Main-engine generators Number:

Make: Hypac HHAW 12050 Type: Hydraulic
Special lifesaving equipment:MES Number of each and capacity:12 x 100 person SOLAS B liferafts, 4 x 22m MES slides Make:LSA Type:LSA 100P SRL MK1 liferaft, 22m MK2 slide
If MES, vertical or sloping chutes?: Sloping
Vehicles Number of vehicle decks:Two fixed Total lane length:610m (trucks) Total cars:
Officers:
Passengers Total:
Bridge control system Make:
Number:
Fire detection system Make: Aquip Systems Fire extinguishing systems Cargo holds: N/A Engine room: CO ₂ Make/Type: Danfoss Semco Vehicle spaces: Drencher Make/Type: Minimax MXD Public spaces: Sprinkler Make/Type: Minimax MX-5
Efficiency Attained EEDI value:Exempt from EEDI Installed Fuel Meters:1 – flow meter Energy Saving Technologies*:
MARINELINK-Smart Performance Monitoring Regime:High frequency data
Contract date:

24 SIGNIFICANT SHIPS OF 2019

Mooring equipment

Number:



SIGNIFICANT SHIPS OF 2019 25