



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT  
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## **AUSTAL PHILIPPINES DELIVERS LARGEST HIGH SPEED FERRY CONSTRUCTED IN PHILIPPINES**

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Austal Limited (ASX:ASB) is pleased to announce that Austal Philippines has successfully delivered Hull 419, a 109 metre high-speed catamaran ferry, to Fjord Line of Norway.

The vehicle-passenger ferry, named *FSTR*, is the largest aluminium vessel ever constructed in the Philippines – and currently the largest ferry (by volume) to be constructed by Austal, at any of the company's shipyards worldwide.

Austal Chief Executive Officer Paddy Gregg said the delivery of *FSTR* during the current COVID19 pandemic was a significant achievement and a testament to the resilience, commitment, skills and safety of the Austal Philippines team.

"It's impressive to see a large high speed ferry like this delivered in the best of times, but for the team to deliver this new vessel during a global pandemic is simply outstanding. The Austal Philippines team has clearly demonstrated its ability to deliver multiple, complex projects under challenging circumstances, while maintaining a safe working environment," Mr Gregg said.

"My congratulations go to the entire Austal Philippines team and Fjord Line on the delivery of this exciting new ship, the largest high-speed ferry ever constructed in the Philippines."

Fjord Line's *FSTR* is capable of transporting 1,200 passengers at up to 40 knots and features Austal's largest ever vehicle-carrying capacity constructed to date, with a beam of 30.5 metres enabling 404 cars to be carried across two decks. The ship features several key design innovations that enhance operating performance and passenger comfort, including a new, optimised hull form that will minimise fuel consumption and wake wash when operating on the Skagerrak Sea between Hirtshals, Denmark and Kristiansand, Norway.

At the vessel handover held at the Balamban Cebu shipyard, Austal Philippines President Wayne Murray said the delivery of *FSTR* was just the first of three large high-speed ferries to be constructed at the company's newly expanded shipyard.

“With the delivery of *FSTR*, we’re now preparing for the launch of Hull 395, *Bañaderos Express*; a 118 metre trimaran ferry under construction for Fred. Olsen Express of the Canary Islands. Following closely behind that, we have the 115 metre *Express 5* under construction for Molslinjen of Denmark”, Mr Murray said.

“We’ve just delivered the largest high-speed ferry ever built in the Philippines and in fact, the largest high-speed ferry built by any Austal shipyard, anywhere in the world. And soon, we will do it again, when we complete *Express 5* for Molslinjen. We are indeed a record setting and record breaking shipyard.”

Hull 395, *Bañaderos Express*, is scheduled for launch later in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of CY2021 and is a sister ship to *Bajamar Express*, constructed at Austal Australia and delivered in July 2020. Hull 423, a 115 metre high speed catamaran ferry to be known as *Express 5*, is a follow-up order from Molslinjen of Denmark and is scheduled to launch in the third quarter of CY2021.



***Fjord Line’s FSTR (Austal Hull 419) is a 109 metre high speed vehicle-passenger ferry, designed by Austal Australia and constructed by Austal Philippines (Image: Austal Philippines)***

This ASX announcement has been approved and authorised for release by Patrick Gregg, Austal Limited’s Chief Executive Officer.

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**Media Contact:**

Cameron Morse  
+61 433 886 871  
[cameron.morse@fticonsulting.com](mailto:cameron.morse@fticonsulting.com)

**About Austal:**

Austal is Australia's global shipbuilder and defence prime contractor designing, constructing and sustaining some of the world's most advanced commercial and defence vessels.

For more than 30 years Austal has contracted more than 340 vessels for over 121 commercial and defence operators in 59 countries, worldwide.

Austal is Australia's largest defence exporter and first ASX-listed shipbuilder. Austal has industry-leading shipyards in Australia, the United States of America, Philippines and Vietnam with service centres worldwide, including the Middle East.

Austal delivers iconic monohull, catamaran and trimaran commercial vessel platforms – including the world's largest trimaran ferry and multiple defence programs such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) for the United States Navy.

Austal has grown to become the world's largest aluminium shipbuilder and is Australia's largest defence exporter.

**Austal Limited** ACN 009 250 266  
100 Clarence Beach Road  
Henderson, Western Australia 6166