

27,500 teu: Chinese debut record-breaking boxship design at SMM

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China State Shipbuilding Corporation

Among the more headline-grabbing announcements coming out of SMM this week in Hamburg, the Chinese have debuted a design at the world's largest shipping exhibition for a record-breaking giant containership.

China State Shipbuilding Corporation's (CSSC) Shanghai Ship Research and Design Institute has received approval in principle for a 27,500 teu LNG dual-fuel containership, more than 3,000 teu larger in capacity than the existing biggest boxships afloat.

Currently, Mediterranean Shipping Co (MSC) holds the mantle for the biggest containership in operation, taking delivery of a series of [24,346 teu ships](#) last year.

The jumboisation of containerships has seen vessel capacities nearly quadruple in size this century. However, over the past year orders from global carriers have tended to be for ships in the 16,000 teu range, a more flexible size that can work across a range of tradelanes, rather than just the Asia-Europe route where today's megamaxies are deployed.

SMM is set to close this evening. The 31st edition of the giant show focused on the maritime energy transition and the digital transformation with more than 2,000 international exhibitors from 70 nations packing out the 12 exhibition halls.