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## **CIRCLE LINE SIGHTSEEING CRUISES TO LAUNCH FIRST NEW VESSEL SINCE WORLD WAR II ERA**

**Iconic New York City Tour Company to Document  
the *Manhattan's* Construction on Website**

**Two Additional Vessels to be Launched in 2008 and 2009**

**New York, NY, February 11, 2008** – Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises will add a new ship to its fleet this spring – the first of three to be added over the next year and a half. Currently under construction in Somerset, MA, the *Manhattan* is scheduled to embark on its maiden voyage in early June. Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises, which has provided more than 60 million guests with a unique glimpse of New York City through the savvy eyes of its professional guides, will host a commencement event to celebrate the ship's christening.

The *Manhattan* will offer upgraded amenities while maintaining the iconic silhouette that generations of voyagers have come to associate with New York City's most famous sightseeing cruise. Holding 600 passengers and made entirely of steel, the 165-foot vessel represents a modern version of a very traditional and functional ferry design. Those wishing to witness the ship's construction can find pictures on Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises website at [www.circleline42.com](http://www.circleline42.com), beginning April 2008.

"This addition to the fleet marks another historic day in our 63 year reign over the waters of Manhattan," said Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises Vice President and General Manager Andreas Sappok. "The state-of-the-art vessel will provide passengers with added comfort as they witness the world's greatest city from the city's greatest sightseeing cruise."

The *Manhattan* will replace the 76-year-old *Calypso*, which is set for retirement. Before joining Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises fleet, the *Calypso* was assigned as a convoy

escort, where, in 1944, she navigated the Atlantic seaboard and rescued survivors from torpedoed ships.

### **About Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises**

Sailing since 1945, Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises has hosted more than 60 million passengers in New York City. Owned and operated by New York Cruise Lines, Inc., Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises is New York's oldest and largest provider of scheduled and chartered sightseeing and special function cruises. Residents and tourists can choose from five different leisurely tours including a three-hour *Full Island Cruise*, a two-hour *Semi-Circle Cruise*, 75-minute *Liberty Cruise*, two-hour twilight *Harbor Lights Cruise* or a 30-minute thriller boat ride aboard The Beast, coupled with convenient schedules to accommodate guests needs, state-of-the-art vessels, first class service and attentive crews. Cruises are not only designed to provide the best viewing opportunities, but to also be informative, comfortable and entertaining as well. Today, the company is recognized as one of the most famous boat rides in the entire world and is one of the oldest 42nd Street landmarks.

*Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises is not affiliated with Circle Line Downtown.*