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ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTS DELIVERY CEREMONY AND HONORS CREW OF *HARMONY OF THE SEAS*

It Is All Hands (4,200) on Deck Onboard the World's Largest and Newest Cruise Ship



NOTE TO EDITOR: Hi-res images are available on www.RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com/harmony.

MIAMI, May 12, 2016 – <u>Royal Caribbean International</u> today honored the crew and project team of the new *Harmony of the Seas* at a traditional delivery and flag changing ceremony in Saint Nazaire, France. Following 32 months of construction at the STX France shipyard involving thousands of shipyard employees, sub-contractors and suppliers, the world's largest and most innovative cruise ship is now home to 2,100 crew members from 77 different nationalities. Joining the festivities in the ship's signature AquaTheater were Richard Fain, Chairman and CEO of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. and Michael Bayley, President and CEO of Royal Caribbean International together with Laurent Castaing, General Manager, STX France.

"Harmony of the Seas is the product of our zealous spirit of continuous improvement, where we have combined revolutionary ship design with the technological strides that have defined the Royal Caribbean brand," said Richard D. Fain. *"Thank you to STX France for their ongoing partnership in building our ships, which continue to introduce unexpected industry innovations."*

"Harmony is truly magnificent in every sense of the word, from her architecture and design to the level of care and attention to detail with which our incredible crew are taking to prepare for our first guests," said Michael Bayley. *"The ship is the 'best of the best' of what our guests love most about* Royal Caribbean, combined with new and thrilling experiences never before found in one place but it is the passion and dedication of our crew that will make everlasting memories for our guests.

(more)

Costing more than a \$1billion, *Harmony of the Seas* will be the 25th ship in the Royal Caribbean fleet and boasts highly anticipated first-at-sea experiences, including:

- A 100-foot drop with **The Ultimate Abyss**, the tallest slide at sea, plunging courageous adrenaline seekers 10 stories down from deck 16 to the Boardwalk on deck 6
- 4,700,000 lbs. (2,150 tons) of water in 23 swimming pools, whirlpools, two FlowRider surf simulators and waterslides, including the **Perfect Storm**, a thrilling trio of waterslides, and the **Splashaway Bay** waterpark for young guests
- The first **double-story Wonderland**, the specialty restaurant concept first introduced onboard the global cruise line's Quantum class of ships delivering an imaginative and whimsical feast for all the senses
- The debut of Broadway's hit musical **Grease** in the Royal Theater and spectacular diving shows in the **AquaTheater**
- 11,252 works of art showcased throughout the ship and Central Park, a living park in the center of the ship which features a total of 10,587 plants, 48 vine plants and 52 trees, some over 20 feet (6.1 meters) high
- **VOOM**, the fastest internet at sea, available exclusively to Royal Caribbean guests, which allows travelers to seamlessly stay connected, stream their favorite entertainment, video chat and share their adventures with friends and family at home

Harmony of the Seas will homeport in Barcelona, Spain and embark on the first of 34 sevennight sailings in the western Mediterranean on June 7, exploring some of Europe's most beautiful locations. In November 2016, *Harmony* will arrive at her homeport of Port Everglades, Fort Lauderdale, FL., from where she will offer seven-night eastern and western Caribbean sailings. The newest member of the fleet will join sister-ships *Oasis of the Seas* and *Allure of the Seas*, sailing from Port Canaveral and Port Everglades respectively, on the east coast of Florida.

Harmony of the Seas is the world's largest cruise ship with a bold and unexpected lineup of thrilling experiences found nowhere else on land or at sea. Harmony combines the distinct sevenneighborhood concept that sister ships Oasis of the Seas and Allure of the Seas are known for, with some of the most modern and groundbreaking amenities including imaginative dining, unparalleled entertainment and the latest technology, including VOOM, the fastest internet at sea. From the Ultimate Abyss, a thrilling 10-story tall slide, to unparalleled entertainment including Broadway's hit musical *Grease* and high-diving, acrobatic performances in the ship's iconic AquaTheater, world-class dining in venues ranging from Jamie's Italian Cuisine by celebrity chef Jamie Oliver to Wonderland, a unique whimsical culinary adventure for the senses; and robot bartenders, there is an adventure for guests of all ages onboard *Harmony*.

Harmony of the Seas spans 16 guest decks, encompasses 227,000 gross registered tons, carries 5,497 guests at double occupancy, and features 2,747 staterooms. For more information about Harmony of the Seas, please visit RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com/harmony.

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