

Success story

## Successful upgrade of LOADMASTER® On-Board FSO Knock Nevis

**In 2004, Kockum Sonics was awarded the upgrade of the present loading computer onboard the worlds largest tanker T/T Jahre Viking. The vessel was dry docked in Dubai for conversion to an FSO and renamed "Knock Nevis". On-board the vessel was an old MS DOS version of the Kockum Sonics' LOADMASTER® tanker program. In late 2004 the old LOADMASTER® was upgraded in line with the conversion and has since been approved by DNV.**



The original LOADMASTER® had been used since the late 1980's without any problems as an independent off-line calculator where the crew had to key in all ullage/sounding values manually. Mr. Leif Torp at Red Band A.S. contacted Kockum Sonics in order to evaluate the possibility of upgrading the present program to a full Microsoft Windows® based application plus getting the system to work on-line with the existing level gauging system and the newly installed temperature gauging system.

Kockum Sonics evaluated the existing level gauging system and tailor-made a communications interface including conversion from analogue signals to digital signals. The entire development was carried out in Sweden based upon direct correspondence with Red Band's Superintendent on-board, all in order to keep the costs at the lowest possible level.

After the speedy and successful completion of the interface, Kockum Sonics took direct contact with the design company working with Knock Nevis' new trim and stability booklet. This enabled the upgrade to proceed without the diversion of Red Band's technical resources that was busily deployed on other tasks. Furthermore as Kockum Sonics have extensive experience of such projects we were also able to assist the Design Company with the final stages of the new Trim & Stability booklet.

This process was also repeated for the newly installed temperature gauging system where a completely new and bespoke interface was written by Kockum Sonics to allow on-line functionality with the LOADMASTER® program. Again Kockum Sonics provided this effective solution through direct communications with the system vendors thus further minimising the input from Red Band's busy technical section.

When the complete package consisting of the upgraded LOADMASTER® with interfaces and converters was delivered, a Kockum Sonics service engineer attended the vessel for 3 days. During this time the system was successfully installed and the crew received the required training to operate the new package that includes many features and user-friendly functions that were not possible within the old DOS LOADMASTER®.

**Always ready to support you** – Our strength is your benefit!



Martin Bladh, Executive Sales Manager, Kockum Sonics AB " Its always a pleasure to be able to solve a problem for a customer without having to bog down their extremely busy technical staff with questions and time consuming project management. We always keep the necessary ship data in our own archive for our own installation. As such there are presently several thousand ships that could benefit from the same level of service provided to Red Band A.S with a minimum of effort from the client's side. Therefore, if you have a vessel with an old Kockum Sonics loading computer installed and you are pondering an upgrade, the chances are extremely high that we could supply the most cost efficient and optimum solution to meet your needs as per the Knock Nevis project."



Erik Hofstad, Superintendent, Red Band A.S. "Kockum Sonics have supported our Knock Nevis project as experts. When trouble regarding Knock Nevis' trim and stability data occurred, the staff of Kockum Sonics helped us solve the matter. In order to obtain the upgrade we have not been involved in much work. Kockum Sonics took the over all responsibility and we got an excellent result with minimum work from our side."

Kockum Sonics have thousands of systems like Knock Nevis' running today. Do you have one of those? If so, please feel free to contact Kockum Sonics and see what operational benefits our new state of the art LOADMASTER® can deliver plus we can also provide you with a level of technical support and knowledge that is second to none.

We look forward to supporting you!