



The long partnership between Cheoy Lee of Hong Kong and Robert Allan Ltd. of Canada continues to produce gold with 'Sir Edouard' receiving our Best ASD Harbour Tug of 2016.

Mauritius needed a new tug that could handle the conditions outside of the sheltered harbour better than their existing fleet which sometimes struggled in heavy seas. She needed to be powerful but not so big that she would struggle to manoeuvre once inside the harbour. Packing 80 tonnes of bollard pull into just 32 metres of tug is an impressive and enviable achievement.

Further distinguishing characteristics of this tug are the unique sponsored hull form for significant improvement in escort performance and in seakeeping. The hull sides are also suitably shaped to enable a tug to pull away from an attended ship

safely, unlike a more typical flat-sided design where the tug can become "stuck" when running alongside a ship.

Her ability to improve safety, performance and efficiency with the Mauritius Ports Authority is sure to make her popular with owner and crew alike.

As with all Robert Allan Ltd. designs, she is the product of meticulous testing and analysis as well as refinement that incorporates lessons learned from all previously vessels as well tweaks that customise her to her particular operational environment.

The Cheoy Lee influence is immediately noticeable with the high quality of the construction evident in everything from the welds and paint job to the interior fit-out. The long history with Robert Allan Ltd. ensures that there is excellent

communication between the naval architects and the yard resulting in minimal misreading of plans and re-work.

2016 has been an unusual year for Cheoy Lee with long periods of quiet interspersed with flurries of high activity with nine tug deliveries in August and nine tug orders in November being most notable. Tugs made up about half the company's deliveries this year with ferries, pilot boats and yachts comprising the rest of the more than 30 vessels delivered.

Both Cheoy Lee and Robert Allan Ltd. predict interesting times ahead. Cheoy Lee has been in operation for a long time and has weathered numerous downturns and is confident that its large portfolio of experience will allow it to take advantage of the increase in interest in windfarm vessels as other sectors quieten.

