

COMPANY:

Birch Shipping Ltd,
Hong Kong

YARD INFORMATION:

Imabari Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.
(Japan) 554

DEMOLITION:

Chittagong, 10/12/2019



Lyttelton (N.Z) 5/10/2010 © A. Calvert (S. Wiedner collection)

2015: Sold to MPK Shipping Inc, Greece. Renamed GEORGIA K.

2019: Demolition at Chittagong, 10/12/2019.

BASIC DATA:

GT: 15071
DWT: 25369
Loa: 159.94 (BB)
Bmd: 26.00
Draft: 9.82
Engine: 1x oil B&W 6S42MC
Power: 6157 kW
Speed: 14.5 kn
Cranes: 4x30.5t

OWNER & FLAG HISTORY:

GEORGIA K since 01/04/2015
BIRCH 4 since 01/04/2010
SINGAPORE GRACE since 01/06/2008
MILLENNIUM BRIGHT since 01/06/2002
JODY F MILLENNIUM during 2000
Flag Date of record Source
Panama since 01/08/2017
Marshall Islands since 01/04/2015
Hong Kong, China since 01/06/2008
Panama since 01/02/2000
Registered owner Date of record Source
FARENCO SERVICES LTD since 28/04/2015
BIRCH SHIPPING LTD since 12/04/2010
SINGAPORE GRACE SHIPPING LTD since 28/06/2008
TWIN BRIGHT SHIPPING CO SA since 01/02/2000
Ship manager Date of record Source
MPK SHIPPING INC since 28/04/2015
WALLEM SHIPMANAGEMENT LTD since 09/09/2010
BIRCH SHIPPING LTD manager since 12/04/2010
FLEET MANAGEMENT LTD-HKG since 28/06/2008
MUR SHIPPING BV since 28/06/2008
DOJIMA MARINE CO LTD since 01/11/2007
TAIYO SANGYO TRADING & MARINE since 28/03/2006
SOKI KISEN KK during 2000

EX-NAMES:

JODY F MILLENIUM	2000-02	Twin Bright Shipping Co SA, Panama
MILLENNIUM BRIGHT	2002-08	Twin Bright Shipping Co SA, Panama
SINGAPORE GRACE	2008-10	Singapore Grace Shipping Ltd, Hong Kong
BIRCH 4	2010-15	Birch Shipping Ltd., Hong Kong
GEORGIA K	2015-19	Farenco Services Ltd, Panama

GENERAL VESSEL INFORMATION:

Built by the Imabari Shipbuilding Company, the vessel was laid down as Yard No. 554 on June 29, 1999, and launched as the **JODY F MILLENIUM** on December 26.

2000:

It was delivered on February 24, 2000, to Twin Bright Shipping SA, a company owned by Soki Kisen KK of Ehime, for service under the flag of Panama.

2002:

Under a previous name as **JODY F MILLENIUM** the ship became famous in New Zealand after she grounded on a beach off the North Island port of Gisbourne during a storm.

On the evening of February 6, 2002, large swells in the harbour caused the ship, loaded with 20,000 tonnes of logs, to break several of its moorings. As attempts by tugs to hold the ship against the wharf were unsuccessful, it was decided to take the vessel to sea. After leaving the port, the ship could not be handled, and after being hit by a heavy swell went aground off Waikanae Beach. Some logs were lost overboard and heavy fuel oil leaked from a ruptured tank in the ship's bottom.

Subsequently, Australian salvage experts were called in and heavy equipment was flown in to allow salvage attempts on the vessel, which had worked its way more than 5m into a sandy trench. The operation required much cargo to be removed to lighten the vessel before it was refloated 18 days later. It was then towed to Tauranga where the rest of the cargo was unloaded and divers patched holes in the hull. It arrived in Tauranga on March 2 and departed 16 days later at the start of a 40-day towage operation back to its builders' yard in Japan.

After the vessel was repaired, it was renamed the **MILLENNIUM BRIGHT** in June 2002.

2006:

In late November 2006, the ship went aground near the port of Nepoui, a town on the west coast of New Caledonia which was built to cater for the mineral industry, mainly nickel mining. It was refloated on a high tide with assistance from two tugs.

2008:

In June 2008, the ship was renamed **SINGAPORE GRACE** when it was sold to Singapore Grace Shipping Ltd, and transferred to Hong Kong registry.

2010:

The 15,071gt, 25,369dwt vessel received its current name last April when acquired by Birch Shipping Ltd, of Hong Kong, a new company that first appeared on the scene a few weeks before. It is part of Clearwater Marine Investments, established in 2002, which is organised under Woodstreet brand names.

(<http://www.odt.co.nz> - 4 Oct 2010 incl. report by Alan Calvert)

2015:

LION SHIPBROKERS
WEEKLY REPORT

M/V "BIRCH 4" - 25,369 dwt, blt 2000, Imabari/Japan, NK, dd due 08/2015, 4HO/4HA, B+W 6S42MC, Cr 4X30.5T
Sold to European or Far Eastern buyers for \$4.3-\$4.5 mill (**new benchmark**)

(Note: soft level compared with recent deal of 3-years older similar unit **ORIENTE SKY (24K BLT 1997 SAIKI/JAPAN)** sold for region \$3.9-\$4.1 mill earlier this month.)

(Weekly Market Report - 30 April 2015)

2019:

GEORGIA K (9224099; Panama) (Birch 4 -15, Singapore Grace -10, Millennium Bright -08, Jody F Millennium -02) 15,071/00 - Bulk Carrier. By Farencos Services Ltd (MPK Shipping Inc), Marshall Islands, to NR Ship Breaking Industries, Bangladesh and arrived Chittagong, 10/12/2019. Commenced 14/12/2019.

(WSS Marine News 10/2020)

Last update: 16/8/2021