

# Capt. Daley's Sea Stories

## *MV ART CARLSON*

### Ghana

7 August 2011

The *MV ART CARLSON* is one of the largest boats in the Tidewater Fleet. I was appointed her Master in June of 2011. Our first contract was for Tullow Oil, servicing the *DS DEEPWATER MILLENNIUM* Drillship in the Jubilee and Tano Fields about 20 miles offshore Ghana. We based out of Takoradi-Sekondi, Ghana, though we were at sea for as long as 35 days without returning to shore.

She is 260 ft. in length overall with a 60 ft. beam. She weighs 2600 tons empty and can carry 4000 tons of cargo for a total displacement of 6600 tons. She has all electric azimuth drives with two bow thrusters, one of which is retractable. She is fully Dynamic Positioned rated DP2. She has 36 racks in 22 staterooms. She has a bulbous bow.

She is flagged Vanuatu and I am the only American onboard. We have a great crew and she is a pleasure to handle.



I used our Fast Rescue Craft, FRC to take some unique photos of the *MV ART CARLSON* (right) and the *DS DEEPWATER MILLENNIUM* drillship (left).



*MV ART CARLSON* is a VS-480 and was built in Singapore in 2002.



She is over 100 feet tall from the waterline to the top of the vessel.



She has two deck cranes rated at 20,530 pounds each at 33 feet reach.



The accommodations are rather nice for an oilfield workboat. My stateroom is far left (starboard side) below the bridge.



The *DS DEEPWATER MILLENIUM* is a Transocean rig, the same company that owned the Deepwater Horizon. It's a small world; I worked this drillship three years ago off the coast of Northern Brazil.



Her function here in Ghana is to complete and test some of the gas wells in the Tano Field.





She is huge, by any standard you choose to use.



This is how I did the shoot. It was great fun and an adventure trying to keep the camera dry.



Preparing to launch the FRC



Oiler Emmanuel drove the FRC and Bosun Daniel operated the crane.



Second Officer Felipe operated coms on the FRC.