



Commercial Marine

SERIES 4000 ENGINES HELP THE GLADYS B MOVE THINGS ALONG AT THE WORLD'S BUSIEST PORT SYSTEM

Who Gladys B tugboat
What MTU Series 4000 M64 engines
Where New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

New Orleans' nickname "The Big Easy" refers to the easy-going, laid back attitude of the city's residents. However, at the Port of New Orleans, the moniker does not apply. The port is located at the center of the world's busiest port system—Louisiana's Lower Mississippi River. More than 33 million short tons of cargo, 50,000 barges and one million cruise passengers move through New Orleans every year. Handling the heavy traffic of vessels is a big job and certainly not easy. It's up to New Orleans' mighty tugboats to make it all possible—including the *Gladys B*.

E.N. Bisso, a major tugboat operator based in New Orleans, expanded its operations with the launch of the *Gladys B*. E.N. Bisso provides ship assist and harbor docking services over five port jurisdictions on the Lower Mississippi River. Built by Signet Shipbuilding & Repair, the 80-foot *Gladys B* joined E.N. Bisso's tug fleet of 15 vessels in December 2016.

Hard work in the Big Easy

For a Port of New Orleans tugboat, a powerful propulsion system is essential. It takes two or three tugboats to push mammoth container ships into position. The mighty Mississippi's strong current adds another level of difficulty. Powered by two MTU 16V 4000 M64 engines, the *Gladys B* is ready, willing and able. The Series 4000 engines are rated at 2,681 bhp each at 1,800 rpm and are Tier 3 emissions certified.

Advanced technology and specialized engine design provides the maximum reliability that will keep *Gladys B* operating with greater uptime and reduced lifecycle costs. Mississippi River cargo vessels keep a tight schedule, and there is no time (or space on the river) to sit idle and wait for an escort. "A tugboat has to be available, 24/7, no questions asked. Uptime is the ultimate factor in a ship assist type operation," says Jeff Sherman, commercial marine sales manager. "The immediate torque and the power provided by the sequential turbocharging system of the MTU 16V 4000 M64 engines will provide abilities to the tug captain that he has not seen before."

Circles around the competition

With twin 16-cylinder Series 4000 engines coupled with Rolls-Royce US 205 P20 FP azimuth stern drives, the *Gladys B* delivers unprecedented performance and agility. The tug is capable of turning 360 degrees at the same spot, and can move forward while turned sideways. The versatility of the *Gladys B* comes in handy in New Orleans, where cargo vessels tie up at a two-mile long wharf (the world's longest), or at bulkheads on the river.

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For more than 60 years, E.N. Bisso tugboats have guided big ships on the Mississippi. With the addition of the powerful, sophisticated Gladys B, E.N. Bisso is ready for whatever comes around the bend.



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Rolls-Royce provides world-class power solutions and complete lifecycle support under our product and solution brand MTU. Through digitalization and electrification, we strive to develop drive and power generation solutions that are even cleaner and smarter and thus provide answers to the challenges posed by the rapidly growing societal demands for energy and mobility. We deliver and service comprehensive, powerful and reliable systems, based on both gas and diesel engines, as well as electrified hybrid systems. These clean and technologically advanced solutions serve our customers in the marine and infrastructure sectors worldwide.