



**Nordic American Tanker Shipping Ltd. (NAT) - (AMEX: NAT) (OSE: NAT) announces the best result and highest dividend payment since the inception of the company**

As of 9/30/00 NAT had an operating profit of USD 17.1 m as against USD 5.5 m during the same period last year. The net profit as of 9/30/00 was USD 15.9 m as against USD 4.3 m, an increase of 270%. For the third quarter isolated the operating profit was USD 9.1 m (USD 1.9 m) and the net profit was USD 8.7 m (USD 1.5 m) - an increase of 480%.

The strong tanker market enables the company to pay a quarterly dividend of USD 1.10, an increase of more than 64% compared to the last quarter. The dividend of USD 1.10 will be paid on or about November 14<sup>th</sup> to shareholders on record as of October 27<sup>th</sup> 2000. The next dividend payment from NAT will be declared in January 2001.

The market for Suezmax tankers in the third quarter strengthened further compared to the second quarter of 2000. NAT's three suezmax tankers, which are on contract to BP Shipping, take immediate advantage of the improved market conditions.

Average T/C rate for the NAT vessels was USD 48,153 per day in the third quarter of 2000 against USD 33,701 per day in the second quarter and USD 26,079 per day in the first quarter. At the beginning of the fourth quarter rates remain strong.

NAT has 9.706.606 shares in issue.

The results for the first nine months of 2000 and the third quarter of 2000 compared with the same periods last year are as follows:

<b><u>USD</u></b>	<b><u>30.09.00</u></b>	<b><u>30.09.99</u></b>	<b><u>Q3 00</u></b>	<b><u>Q3 99</u></b>
Revenue	22,622,976	11,056,500	10,944,036	3,726,000
Misc. exp.	(416,513)	(460,249)	(146,616)	(157,500)
Depreciation	(5,123,280)	(5,123,280)	(1,707,760)	(1,707,760)
Operating profit	17,083,183	5,472,971	9,089,660	1,860,740
Net financial exp.	(1,154,522)	(1,189,072)	(373,173)	(404,452)
Net profit	15,928,661	4,283,899	8,716,487	1,456,288

The improved market conditions are reflected in the net profit of the third quarter 2000 which is six times higher than for the same period in 1999.

The contracts for the NAT vessels are drawn up in a way that secures income 365 days a year for the vessels and no off-hire. The contracts with BP Shipping commenced on October 1, 1997 and run for minimum 7 years and maximum 14 years if all options are declared.

NAT will always achieve rates that correspond to the spot market for modern suezmax tankers, but will not be below USD 22,000 per day (T/C equivalent), which is the agreed minimum rate with BP Shipping.

The quarterly dividend paid since 1998 has been as follows:

Q1	1998:	\$ 0.40		
Q2	1998:	\$ 0.41		
Q3	1998:	\$ 0.32		
Q4	1998:	\$ 0.30	All 1998	: \$ 1.43
Q1	1999:	\$ 0.32		
Q2	1999:	\$ 0.32		
Q3	1999:	\$ 0.35		
Q4	1999:	\$ 0.36	All 1999	: \$ 1.35
Q1	2000:	\$ 0.34		
Q2	2000:	\$ 0.45		
Q3	2000:	\$ 0.67		
<b>Q4</b>	<b>2000:</b>	<b>\$ 1.10</b>	<b>All 2000</b>	<b>: \$ 2.56</b>

Ugland Nordic Shipping ASA (UNS), an Oslo Stock Exchange listed company holding 18.8% of the shares in NAT, is the manager of NAT.

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