



Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Woods Hole

December 3, 2004

The M/V Flying Cloud missed its last round trip to Nantucket last night and will be out of service for at least 48 hours, due to a problem with the after bearing input shaft in the vessel's reduction gear box that is connected to the port main engine. Repairs will require the reduction gear box to be taken out. Replacement parts are being flown in this morning from Louisiana.

While the M/V Flying Cloud is undergoing emergency repairs, passenger service will be limited to the M/V Eagle's normal operating schedule leaving Hyannis 9:15 AM, 3:00 PM and 8:30 PM and returning from Nantucket at 6:30 AM, 12:00 Noon and 5:45 PM. The M/V Eagle is allowed to carry up to 800 passengers.

This makes the second year in a row that the M/V Flying Cloud will be out of service for part or all of one of the most important weekends of the year for Nantucket, Christmas Stroll weekend.

We apologize for the inconvenience to those customers who had booked reservations on the M/V Flying Cloud for this weekend. We are doing everything we can to get the vessel back in service as soon as possible.