P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC

Form 6-K November 12, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 6-K

P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a - 16 OR 15d - 16 OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of November 2002

Not Applicable (Translation of registrant's name into English)

77 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1PP (Address of principal executive offices)

Form 20-F X Form 40-F ____

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3 - 2(b) under the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934

Yes ____ No X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3 - $$2\mbox{ (b)}$$ 82 -

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC

Date: 11 November 2002 By: /s/ Simon Pearce

Name: Simon Pearce
Title: Company Secretary

P&O PRINCESS CONFIRMS DELIVERY DATES FOR DIAMOND PRINCESS AND SAPPHIRE PRINCESS

November 11, 2002

As previously reported, following the fire last month aboard one of the two sister ships under construction in Nagasaki, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries ("MHI"), P&O Princess Cruises plc ("P&O Princess") confirmed their intention to continue with construction of the damaged vessel. The cruise program for the ship from its original scheduled delivery in June 2003 through to the end of February 2004 had been cancelled, pending a full assessment of the damage.

P&O Princess is pleased to report, following further discussions with MHI and completion of the damage assessment, that a revised delivery schedule for both ships can now be confirmed and that no further cruise programs will be cancelled. The delivery of the second ship has been brought forward by three months to February 2004. This ship will now be named Diamond Princess and will be deployed initially in the Mexican trade. The ship damaged in the fire will be rebuilt with delivery in May 2004. This ship will now be named Sapphire Princess and will enter service for the 2004 Alaska season, based in Seattle.

"Over the last several weeks we have worked very constructively with Mitsubishi to assess the damage and finalize arrangements that have enabled MHI to confirm to us the new delivery dates for these two ships" said Peter Ratcliffe, CEO of P&O Princess. "We appreciate the great

efforts which have and continue to be made by MHI, their workforce and sub-contractors in achieving this new delivery schedule, thus allowing both ships to be available for the important 2004 summer season".

P&O Princess reconfirms that the company has in place contractual arrangements with the yard and insurance policies that it believes will be sufficient to ensure that there will be no significant economic impact on the Group or any adverse impact on its 2003 earnings as a result of the fire. Furthermore, given the revised delivery dates, the net effect on the Group's total capacity for 2004 will be a reduction of around 1%, so any impact on 2004 earnings is expected to be immaterial. Expected passenger cruise days for the Group for 2004 are now 15.5 million.

- Ends -

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Website

 $\verb|www.poprincesscruises.com| \\$

P&O Princess

P&O Princess Cruises plc is a leading international cruise company with some of the strongest cruising brand names: Princess Cruises in North America; P&O Cruises, Swan Hellenic and Ocean Village in the UK; AIDA and A'ROSA in Germany; and P&O Cruises in Australia. It is a leading provider of cruises to Alaska, the Caribbean, Europe, the Panama Canal and other Exotic destinations. The current complement of 18 ships and two river boats in operation offer 30,430 berths and is set to grow in the next two years with the acquisition of two additional ocean cruise ships and the delivery of six new ocean cruise ships and two river boats on order. P&O Princess Cruises has approximately 20,000 employees worldwide and carried over one million passengers in 2001, generating a revenue of approximately \$2.5 billion (approximately GBP1.7

billion). Headquartered in London, P&O Princess Cruises' ordinary shares are quoted on the London Stock Exchange and as ADSs on the New York Stock Exchange (under the symbol "POC").