

Edgar Filing: P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC - Form 425

P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC  
Form 425  
December 19, 2001

Filing under Rule 425 under  
the Securities Act of 1933  
and deemed filed under Rule 14d-2  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
Filing by: Carnival Corporation  
Subject Company: P&O Princess Cruises plc.  
SEC File No. of Princess: 001-15136

NOT FOR RELEASE, PUBLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION  
IN OR INTO AUSTRALIA, CANADA OR JAPAN

19 December 2001

CARNIVAL CORPORATION ("CARNIVAL")

-----  
RESPONSE TO P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC ("P&O PRINCESS")

Carnival notes the announcement made this morning by P&O Princess that it will delay its EGM only until 14 February 2002.

Carnival has today again requested a meeting with P&O Princess in order to reduce the pre-conditionality of its Offer. Carnival has consistently sought to provide as much certainty as possible for P&O Princess Shareholders. Accordingly Carnival again requests that P&O Princess provides the information for Carnival to be able to reduce the pre-conditionality of its Offer.

Describing Carnival's Offer as a spoiling tactic is tantamount to accusing Carnival and its advisers of creating a false market in P&O Princess Shares, in breach of the Takeover Code and the FSA Code of Market Conduct. Carnival utterly repudiates any such suggestion.

Carnival wishes to correct the misleading announcement made by P&O Princess this morning:

- Carnival's Offer is not seeking to force P&O Princess Shareholders to vote down the merger proposal. Instead, Carnival is proposing that the board of P&O Princess should, in the interests of its shareholders, delay the EGM until the regulators have concluded their review of both proposals. Carnival wishes to ensure that a level playing field is established in order that P&O Princess Shareholders can then consider both proposals on the basis of value.
- Both proposals are conditional on regulatory approval and neither combination can proceed without, inter alia, US antitrust clearance.

Micky Arison, the Chairman and Chief Executive of Carnival, said:

"We are not spoilers. We have talked to P&O Princess about a combination of our to businesses over a long period of time. The only spoiling tactics are the poison pills entered into by the P&O Princess board, which have destroyed shareholder value and which have been entered into in the full knowledge of our longstanding interest in P&O Princess."

## Edgar Filing: P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC - Form 425

### ENQUIRIES:

CARNIVAL Telephone: +44 20 7831 3113  
Micky Arison  
Howard Frank

MERRILL LYNCH Telephone: +44 20 7628 1000  
Philip Yates  
James Agnew  
Stuart Faulkner

UBS WARBURG Telephone: +44 20 7567 8000  
Tom Cooper  
Alistair Defriez

FINANCIAL DYNAMICS Telephone: +44 20 7831 3113  
Nic Bennett  
Scott Fulton

Terms used in this announcement have the same meaning as in the Announcement dated 16 December 2001.

The directors of Carnival accept responsibility for the information contained in this announcement. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the directors of Carnival (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure such is the case), the information contained herein for which they accept responsibility is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

Merrill Lynch International and UBS Warburg Ltd., a subsidiary of UBS AG, are acting as joint financial advisors and joint corporate brokers exclusively to Carnival and no-one else in connection with the Offer and will not be responsible to anyone other than Carnival for providing the protections afforded to clients respectively of Merrill Lynch International and UBS Warburg Ltd. as the case may be or for providing advice in relation to the Offer.

### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this announcement constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Carnival has tried, wherever possible, to identify such statements by using words such as "anticipate," "assume," "believe," "expect," "intend," "plan" and words and terms of similar substance in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance. These forward-looking statements, including those which may impact the forecasting of Carnival's net revenue yields, booking levels, price, occupancy or business prospects, involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause Carnival's actual results, performances or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performances or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions which may impact levels of disposable income of consumers and the net revenue yields for Carnival's cruise products; consumer demand for cruises and other vacation options; other vacation industry competition; effects on consumer demand of armed conflicts, political instability, terrorism, the availability of air service and adverse media publicity; increases in cruise industry and vacation industry capacity;

## Edgar Filing: P&O PRINCESS CRUISES PLC - Form 425

continued availability of attractive port destinations; changes in tax laws and regulations; Carnival's ability to implement its shipbuilding program and to continue to expand its business outside the North American market; Carnival's ability to attract and retain shipboard crew; changes in foreign currency rates, security expenses, food, fuel, insurance and commodity prices and interest rates; delivery of new ships on schedule and at the contracted prices; weather patterns; unscheduled ship repairs and dry-docking; incidents involving cruise ships; impact of pending or threatened litigation; and changes in laws and regulations applicable to Carnival.

Carnival cautions the reader that these risks may not be exhaustive. Carnival operates in a continually changing business environment, and new risks emerge from time to time. Carnival cannot predict such risks nor can it assess the impact, if any, of such risks on its business or the extent to which any risk, or combination of risks may cause actual results to differ from those projected in any forward-looking statements. Accordingly, forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as a prediction of actual results. Carnival undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

CARNIVAL PLANS TO FILE A REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM S-4 AND A STATEMENT ON SCHEDULE TO WITH THE US SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFER. THE FORM S-4 WILL CONTAIN A PROSPECTUS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE OFFER. CARNIVAL PLANS TO MAIL THE PROSPECTUS CONTAINED IN THE FORM S-4 TO SHAREHOLDERS OF P&O PRINCESS WHEN THE FORM S-4 IS FILED WITH THE SEC. THE FORM S-4, THE PROSPECTUS AND THE SCHEDULE TO WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CARNIVAL, P&O PRINCESS, THE OFFER AND RELATED MATTERS. INVESTORS AND STOCKHOLDERS SHOULD READ THE FORM S-4, THE PROSPECTUS, THE SCHEDULE TO AND THE OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFER CAREFULLY BEFORE THEY MAKE ANY DECISION WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFER. THE FORM S-4, THE PROSPECTUS, THE SCHEDULE TO AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFER WILL BE AVAILABLE WHEN FILED FREE OF CHARGE AT THE SEC'S WEB SITE, AT WWW.SEC.GOV. IN ADDITION, THE PROSPECTUS AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFER WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO INVESTORS FREE OF CHARGE BY WRITING TO TIM GALLAGHER AT CARNIVAL CORPORATION, CARNIVAL PLACE, 3655 N.W. 87 AVENUE, MIAMI, FLORIDA, 33178-2428, US.

IN ADDITION TO THE FORM S-4, PROSPECTUS, THE SCHEDULE TO AND THE OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFER, CARNIVAL IS OBLIGATED TO FILE ANNUAL, QUARTERLY AND SPECIAL REPORTS, PROXY STATEMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION WITH THE SEC. PERSONS MAY READ AND COPY ANY REPORTS, STATEMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION FILED WITH THE SEC AT THE SEC'S PUBLIC REFERENCE ROOM AT 450 FIFTH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549. PLEASE CALL THE SEC AT 1-800-SEC-0330 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE PUBLIC REFERENCE ROOM. FILINGS WITH THE SEC ALSO ARE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FROM COMMERCIAL DOCUMENT-RETRIEVAL SERVICES AND AT THE WEB SITE MAINTAINED BY THE SEC AT WWW.SEC.GOV.