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(Lloyds List)  
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FENDER Care Marine of the UK has teamed up with Heidenreich Lightering of the US, a Per Heidenreich company, in a new "worldwide alliance."

Since it was floated last summer, Heidenreich Lightering has been seeking to eat into the bitterly competitive US Gulf market for lightering, the act of transferring oil from a large ship to a small one to bring it ashore.

Jim Bailey, president of Heidenreich Lightering, said it could be operating "anywhere between eight and 12" service ships in any given month, and that the new alliance would help its quest for market expansion.

"Fender Care is very strong in providing equipment such as hoses and in its complement of mooring masters, and is strong in the UK, Scandinavia and its geographical vicinity," Mr Bailey said.

"We, on the other hand, have the ability to find and charter vessels and are well-placed in regions such as the US Gulf, the Atlantic Coast and Aruba."