

Paris, April 10, 2010. Just came back from Hull in England, where I went to pick up a 1.20m / 4' long model of my late father's tug, *Cintra*! That's right, this past Christmas, on the net, I came across retired seaman Colin Burrows, a builder of custom (one-off) models of ocean tugs, supply vessels and traditional English fishing trawlers. So I told him my story, sent him photos, he did a bit more research, and voila, 3 months later I drove to Hull to pick up an absolutely gorgeous 4' long little *Cintra*!

Colin sent me photos of the model as she was being built. I am planning to post these photos of the model's construction, together with some stuff on the real *Cintra*, in a separate folder dedicated to this topic. Meanwhile, you will have to do with the two photos of the finished product that I post below.

A bit more on the real *Cintra*: she had an overall length of 164.3', a beam of 34.6', and a gross tonnage of 716 tons. In the engine room she originally had a steam reciprocating engine with 1620 BHP. (And I say originally because I am convinced that she was converted to bunker oil already under Portuguese ownership.) She was built for the UK Admiralty as part of the war effort in 1944 and was originally named *Enchanter*. She was sold to United Towing of Hull, England, in 1947 and renamed *Englishman*. Finally, in 1962 she was sold to Sociedade Geral of Lisbon, Portugal, and renamed *Cintra*. I also post two pictures of the real *Cintra* below.

(... But if it was Sociedade Geral, why SN on her smoke stack? For that you will have to wait for the folder.)

My father served on *Cintra* (as chief mate and then captain) from Sociedade Geral's acquisition until he left the sea life in 1966 to move to Mozambique. On her, and as captain, he made a salvage of a mixed ship (cargo and passengers) near the Ouessant Islands off Brittany (the Southern end to the Western entrance to the English Channel.) My next research assignment on the net is to find out more about this salvage!

Now you understand why all my sailboats have been named *Cintra*. ... Yes, with a C!

Until the next one.

Jorge