

# Safe and environmentally sound recycling of decommissioned Royal Navy vessels: the case for recycling in Turkey

Turkey has been at the forefront of international developments for regulating ship recycling on a global scale with its active involvement in the negotiations at the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Basel Convention.

Turkey is a NATO ally, a party to the Basel Convention and the fifth country worldwide – only the third in Europe – to have signed the IMO Hong Kong Convention on the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, in August 2010.

As an OECD country with a major ship-recycling industry, Turkey can lawfully import obsolete Royal Navy vessels for recycling under the provisions of the European Waste Shipment Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006, as transposed into UK law.

Turkey, being an OECD and EU accession country, employs Western-style standards and regulations for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of obsolete seagoing vessels. Specifically in relation to waste management, all the requirements and provisions of the Council Directive 91/689/EEC on hazardous waste have been introduced into the Turkish national legislation related to hazardous wastes (BL-HWC 2005/22387).

LEYAL Ship Recycling Ltd of Turkey has been awarded a number of ship-recycling contracts by the Royal Navy, and has completed the necessary formalities by obtaining the relevant permissions from the UK Environment Agency for the export to Turkey of a number of Royal Navy vessels for recycling, including:

- HMS *Invincible* in 2011
- HMS *Exeter*, HMS *Southampton* and HMS *Nottingham* in 2011
- RFA tanker *Oakleaf* in 2010
- HMS *Cardiff*, HMS *Newcastle* and HMS *Glasgow* in 2008 and 2009



Sisters' farewell: HMS Invincible face-to-face with HMS Ark Royal just before departing for Turkey

PHOTO: LEYAL

LEYAL Ship Recycling Ltd also has a long and successful track record for the recycling of regular commercial vessels. The company, along with its affiliate/fellow recycling yards, has been involved in the decontamination, dismantling and recycling of more than 600 obsolete seagoing vessels and platforms since the early 1980s, ranging from bulkers, tankers, reefers, passengers ships, container ships, and RoRo vessels to FPSOs, navy ships and submarines, LPG carriers, dredgers and others up to sizes of 200,000 tons displacement.

In 2006, LEYAL Ship Recycling Ltd was awarded with the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 integrated management system certification by NQA, a leading British assessment, verification and certification body accredited by UKAS.

In 2011, LEYAL Ship Recycling Ltd was awarded its highest-profile contract to date when the Disposal Services Agency of the UK Ministry of Defence announced its decision to recycle the aircraft carrier HMS *Invincible* at LEYAL. The vessel was

towed to Turkey in March 2011 and, at the time of writing, was on schedule to be recycled by the end of 2011.

LEYAL Ship Recycling Ltd is also the main industrial partner to the first European Commission-funded R&D project under EC Funding Program 6, dedicated to ship recycling, with the acronym ShipDismantl.

For more information, please visit [www.leyal.com.tr](http://www.leyal.com.tr) or contact us at [environment@leyal.com.tr](mailto:environment@leyal.com.tr)

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