

Foundation of international association on ship recycling

The Hague, October 24, 2007- , Representatives of the shipping industry have founded a global association on ship recycling: the International Ship Recycling Association (I.S.R.A.). At the date of foundation two Chinese, six Turkish, a Dutch and an American yard, together with the national Ship Association of Turkey have applied for membership.

So far ship recycling yards have never been involved in international legislation. According to Mrs Liu Guohong, chairman of the I.S.R.A., it is important to handle ship recycling on a global scale. "With the foundation of the I.S.R. A. we can start to work on the international legislation of this important issue in our industry. As responsible ship recyclers we can join our forces against the dreadful practices of countries that allow beaching methods. We want this organisation to bring a voice to the IMO. We want to show the world, things can be done in a green, high-quality way and there can still be return and it is good business."

Exchange

The association strives to promote the exchange of knowledge, experience, ideas, novelties and training programs. I.S.R.A. will also promote worldwide ship dismantling at a high environmentally sound and technical level. The members agree to have their yards certified to the latest standards. I.S.R.A. will also pursue the membership of yards in the developing countries. These yards must accept the I.S.R.A. guidelines and be willing to make investments for upgrading their yards to the required level. Furthermore I.S.R.A. will show alternatives for beaching vessels. The protection of the return of investments for its members will also be looked upon. Another important goal is to change the image of the dismantling industry and make ship recycling more attractive to shipowners.

Structure of I.S.R.A.

The association is to be founded in The Netherlands under Dutch law. The secretariat will be located in The Hague and the annual meetings will take place in member states or in The Hague. The following yards have successfully applied for membership of ISRA:

Chine Jiang Xiajiang Changjiang Shiprepair Yard and Zhongxin Ship Recycling & Steel Co. (both from China), OGe Gemi Sokum, Cemas Celik, Leyal Ship Recycling, Adem Simsek & Simsekler Group, Demtas and Dortel Ship Recycling Limited & Co. (all from Turkey), Sparrows Point Shipyard (US) and Scheepsloperij Nederland BV (The Netherlands).

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