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Image

It is my pleasure to write this foreword for the first issue of our new magazine ShipBuilding Industry.

Shipbuilders are in general rather modest people, they do not blow the horn when a quality product is completed and is on the point of leaving the shipyard. But in this time and age, it is essential to tell and show the world what we can and do. Our industry unfortunately still has a somewhat meager image and this new magazine can contribute to a change of this picture.

What kind of articles can we expect in this new magazine?

Shipbuilding is in fact a very complex assembly project from the beginning until completion, in which a great number of companies and specialists are involved. The shipbuilder is in most cases the manager, the conductor of this orchestra.

The Dutch shipyards have in their strategic action plan 'Dutch Leadership 2015 – The Power to lead' focused unanimously on improving cooperation in the building chain. It will be a good idea to show good examples of this improved cooperation in this magazine, thereby proving that our strategic action plan works. Further examples of outstanding innovative solutions can be published. The Dutch shipbuilding industry with their Dutch subcontractors and institutions like MARIN, is belonging to the most innovative part of the industry.

Each issue can have a highlight on one of the sectors of our industry.

For example, the builders of dredgers, motor and sailing yachts, work and crew boats, river crafts, branches in which the Dutch shipbuilders can be considered world market leaders. In this way the new magazine "Shipbuilding Industry" can fulfil an important role in informing the world and thereby improving the image of our industry.

I wish the editors, publishers and VNSI success in this new challenge.



Manfred J. van der Wal



Chairman VNSI

Ship Building i n d u s t r y

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Cover photo: Twin-screw trailing suction hopper dredger 'Reynaert', built by IHC Holland Merwede (photo courtesy of IHC Holland Merwede).

