

Bit Part



Defining the efforts of the entire shipbuilding and shipping industry at the advance SMM press conference held end of May, Martin Stopford – Managing Director of Clarkson Research – said it had all been about ‘keeping this show on the road’ over the last twenty months. Undoubtedly, a continuous effort for considerable time to come, while trade is on the up but at the same time Clarkson’s estimations expect the world merchant fleet to grow 7% this year and 8.7% next year. And the world is opening up, which makes any prediction about the future – and in particular where the shipbuilding industry is heading both figuratively and literally – as good as the next one. Being able to keep on re-inventing yourself will however be of paramount importance. As will ongoing technological innovation.

How the industry has taken on the challenges since the last SMM, is one reason to be in Hamburg, Germany, this September. The worldwide shipbuilding industry is obviously more than ready. Bernd Aufderheide, President and CEO of SMM organiser Hamburg Messe und Congress, announced that the SMM 2010 is fully booked, offering 87,000 m² of the latest and greatest by some 2,000 exhibitors from over 60 countries.

Including the Papua New Guinea Dockyard Limited. This builder of LNG tankers is a befitting example of a world that is opening up and will bring many a newcomer to the SMM 2010. Other newcomers – for instance from Bahrain and India – are ready to launch their future international careers on the world shipbuilding’s main stage the Hamburg event is, aiming to change their role from a regional walk-on to at least an international bit part, but secretly aspiring for that leading role.

So, where are you going to be, where do you want to be and what are your aspirations? Now it is up to you to let us know how you will stake your claim to fame. We will make you star on our pages and will be more than happy to take the bit part in helping to keep the whole show on the road.

Robin Zander

Editor-in-chief

Ship Building i n d u s t r y

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Front cover and background picture contents page: Although located all around Finland, the Finnish maritime industries make out a crucial part of the economical structure in the west coast area of Finland in particular. Now employing around 21,000 people, the maritime industries in Finland play a major role within the Finnish technology industries. In fact, they employ 10% of the country's 'technology workforce'. Photo courtesy of Turku Repair Yard and Technip.

Be on our front cover

Have you always wanted to be on the front cover of ShipBuilding Industry? If so, send us an (action) photo of you or your product/service in the shipbuilding field. The best photos will be used.