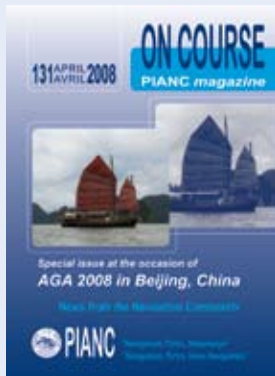
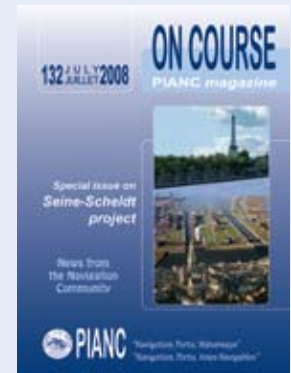


NEWS FROM THE NAVIGATION COMMUNITY



PIANC MAGAZINE 'ON COURSE'

CALL FOR ARTICLES



As you have observed from the current year of publication, and in particular from the special issues of our Magazine 'On Course', the quality of many articles has significantly improved of late. This is largely due to the good input we have received from the National Sections. Together with our Technical Working Group Reports, the PIANC Magazine 'On Course' is a unique publication with a world spanning reach among high-qualified experts.

Once again we are launching an urgent call to all our members to submit interesting articles for next year's 'On Course.' Only with your support can we sustain a high quality and interesting reading. As you know, technical articles can treat current issues in the field of inland, maritime, or recreational navigation, or related environmental topics. Since we want to diversify the scope of articles, we would welcome two or three articles from authors within each National Section reach. In particular, we are looking for descriptive articles on major infrastructure projects and programmes – rather than theoretical and mathematical articles that we used to publish in the past. PIANC encourages your National Section to take up this opportunity! Please send your reply and your suggestions to our editing officer, Mon Vanderostyne (mvo@mvo.be), before 15 November 2008.

Also, we really would like to launch a call to all National Sections, First Delegates, as well as PIANC members to provide on a regular basis some input for the magazine's news section 'News from the navigation community'. Articles must contain news items, which are relevant to current events and cannot be of a too commercial nature. If you have some useful information that you consider to be of interest for this news section or if you wish to be put on the mailing list of contributing authors for the news section of 'On Course', don't hesitate to send an e-mail to leen.weltens@pianc-aipcn.org. It would be highly appreciated!

Thanks in advance!

Mon Vanderostyne
Editing Officer

Leen Weltens
Assistant-Editor

THE NETHERLANDS

The C40 World Ports Climate Conference



The C40 World Ports Climate Conference (WPCC) convened in Rotterdam from 9 until 11 July 2008. The conference demonstrated the commitment of the world ports to combat climate change and improve air quality. The event was organized by the Port of Rotterdam and the 'Rotterdam Climate Initiative', with the support of IAPH. A total of thirty presentations were made at six sessions, dealing with a range of measures and innovative technology to reduce air emissions from port-related activities. Six more presentations followed at special sessions "Biomass" and "Carbon capture and storage". Among VIPS addressing the audience were the Honorable Ivo Opstelten, Mayor of Rotterdam, Mr. Ruud Lubbers, former prime minister of the Netherlands (the conference chairman) and IMO Secretary-General Efthimos Mitropoulos.

At the closing session on 11 July, the conference adopted the Declaration 'World Ports for a better climate', in which the participating ports show their active intent of decreasing CO₂-emissions and of improving air quality in the ports by developing their own programmes. IAPH will continue to support the conference's objective. In November 2008, a follow-up meeting will take place in Los Angeles, as to finalize the details of the action programmes.

For more details, please visit the official WPCC website at <http://www.wpccrotterdam.com>.

Port Authority Rotterdam starts construction of Maasvlakte 2

After fifteen years of planning and preparation, the Port of Rotterdam Authority has now started the construction work on Maasvlakte 2. On 1 September a start was made on dredging sand in the Yangtzehaven, using the cutter suction dredger 'Zuiderklip'. The sand is being transported, via a pressure pipeline, to the site where the APM terminal is to be built. Soon after this, the first hopper dredger will begin to build the soft coastal defenses and suppletion off the coast. The Port Authority now has all the necessary permits to start constructing Maasvlakte 2. A limited number of appeals have been lodged against these permits. Considering all the thorough and extensive studies involved in the permit applications, the Port Authority faces the current appeal procedures with confidence.

Maasvlakte 2 is the new port and industrial zone that is to be built right on the North Sea, directly west of the current port and industrial area. 1000 hectares will become available for deepsea-related activities. The first sites will be ready to build on early 2011 and the first container can pass over the quays in 2013. Already 40 % of Maasvlakte 2 has been allocated for container handling.

Koninklijke Boskalis Westminster and Van Oord will construct the first section of Maasvlakte 2, including the sea defenses and the first hectares of port area, between 2008 and 2013. The two Dutch dredging companies are working together on this project under the name PUMA: Projectorganisatie Uitbreiding Maasvlakte (project organization for the expansion of the Maasvlakte). The contract takes the form of a 'design & construct', plus maintenance of the sea defenses and quayside structures, and involves in excess of € 1 billion.

Eng. Tiedo Vellinga
The Netherlands



Construction of the Maasvlakte 2 has started

NEWS FROM THE NAVIGATION COMMUNITY

FRANCE

Une nouvelle organisation ministérielle en France pour la mer, les ports, la navigation intérieure, la plaisance....



Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE



Ministère
de l'Écologie, de l'Énergie,
du Développement durable
et de l'Aménagement
du territoire

A la suite du «Grenelle de l'Environnement», de très nombreuses mesures ont été préconisées qui concernent très directement l'action du ministère de l'écologie, de l'énergie, du développement durable et de l'aménagement du territoire (MEED-DAT). Pour répondre aux enjeux du développement durable dans le secteur maritime et dans les transports, le ministre d'Etat Jean-Louis Borloo a notamment créé la direction générale des infrastructures, des transports et de la mer (DGITM).

Les attributions de cette nouvelle direction générale, sous la conduite de Daniel Bursaux, ingénieur général des Ponts et Chaussées, couvrent les champs relatifs aux

transports terrestres et maritimes. Elle comprend : la Direction des Infrastructures de Transport (DIT) qui a notamment en charge la planification, le développement et l'entretien des infrastructures portuaires, ferroviaires, routières et de navigation intérieure relevant de l'Etat ; la Direction des Services de Transport (DST) chargée notamment d'élaborer les orientations de la politique intermodale de développement des ports maritimes, des ports fluviaux et des plates-formes d'échange, ainsi que d'élaborer et de mettre en œuvre les réglementations relatives à la sécurité, à la sûreté et à l'exercice des professions de transporteur ; la Direction des Affaires Maritimes (DAM) qui intervient dans les domaines du droit du travail des marins, de la sécurité des navires et de la navigation, de la flotte de commerce, de la navigation de plaisance et des sports nautiques, qui contrôle les activités en mer, et enfin organise et met en œuvre les systèmes d'information maritimes.

Pour en savoir plus, veuillez visiter www.mer.developpement-durable.gouv.fr ou www.transports.developpement-durable.gouv.fr, ou pour votre complète information www.routes.developpement-durable.gouv.fr.

Daniel Bursaux

Directeur général MEEDDAT/
DGITM/SAGS/EP/EP3

Journées scientifiques et techniques du CETMEF



Le Centre d'Études Techniques Maritimes et Fluviales (CETMEF) organise du 8 au 10 décembre prochain ses septièmes journées scientifiques et techniques à Paris, sous la haute autorité du ministre de l'Écologie, de l'Énergie, du Développement durable et de l'Aménagement du territoire. Toutes précisions utiles sur ces journées sont disponibles sur le site web du CETMEF (www.cetmef.developpement-durable.gouv.fr). Les préoccupations de l'AIPCN correspondent vraiment aux thèmes qui y seront traités:

- L'hydraulique portuaire;
- La sûreté des ports et de leurs approches;
- Les applications satellitaires pour la surveillance des côtes et des océans;
- La navigation durable;
- L'assimilation des données;
- L'e-navigation, l'e-maritime et l'e-fluvial.

Ces journées sont ouvertes aux membres de l'AIPCN (PIANC). Venez nombreux!

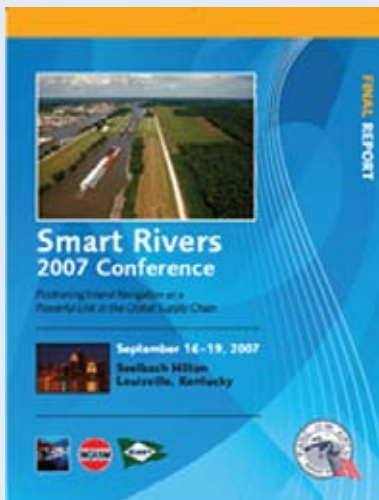
Geoffroy Caude

Directeur du CETMEF
Président de MarCom

NEWS FROM THE NAVIGATION COMMUNITY

UNITED STATES

Smart Rivers 2007 Report available



As of now, the report of the Smart Rivers 2007 Conference in Louisville, KY is available on the PIANC USA website for a free download. This three-day technical specialty conference with technical tours and a workshop drew more than two hundred people and was a resounding success. The conference attendees shared knowledge and experience, and discussed ways in which to work for a better and more efficient integration of inland waterways (rivers and channels) into an integrated intermodal transport system.

The next Smart Rivers Conference will take place from 13 until 16 September 2009 at the Vienna City Hall in Austria. The overall theme will be 'The future of Inland waterway navigation'. The conference, which is being organized by TINA Vienna Transport Strategies and the City of Vienna, will also include exhibitions, technical visits as well as networking social events.

Kelly Barnes
PIANC USA

ROMANIA

New internet web platform Danube Ports online

The new internet web platform Danube Ports online was launched in June at the 4th Danube Summit in Constantza, Romania. This Internet tool presents the relevant technical and economical data about the most important ports of the Danube region between Kelheim in Germany and the Black Sea. Users can access relevant technical and economic information about the ports in a succinct form ranging from general data to details about port administration, handling and storage facilities and devices, terminal operators, maintenance and disposal, as well as prospects for the future.

Danube Ports Online offers an opportunity for all ports of the Danube region to provide a profile of their activities and plans, benefiting in turn from the promotional and informational effect of such an instrument. Completely free of charge, whether for the users as for the ports, Danube Ports Online is designed to be a meeting point for supply and demand along the Danube.

It will be updated on a regular basis in order to guarantee the most accurate information to the users, whether investors, professionals in the logistics sector, public authorities, educational institutions and the interested public.

All information can be found on the Danube Ports Online website at: www.danubeports.info.



EUROPEAN UNION

EU ports policy debated at the European Parliament and the EESC

At the end of June, the Members of the Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN) of the European Parliament voted on the report of MEP Ortuondo on the EU ports policy communication, which was published by the European Commission October last year.

The report expresses overall support to the Commission's policy and emphasizes the need to respect the diversity of the European port sector. It underlines a number of essential elements, such as the need for environmental guidelines for port infrastructure. State aid guidelines for seaports should be issued as soon as possible. They should make a clear distinction between access and defense infrastructure, project-related infrastructure and superstructure, without discriminating between categories of ports.

Furthermore, the report considers the issue of competition with non-EU ports and it underlines the need for improved hinterland connections for ports (calling upon the TEN-T revision). It also recognizes the social and cultural role of ports and calls for simplification of administrative procedures, transparency of accounts and flexibility for port authorities regarding concessions.

On 9 July 2008 also the Economic and Social Committee (EESC) had a close look at the EU ports policy. The report of rapporteur Jan Simons gained big support of the other EESC members and expresses also

overall satisfaction with the Commission's policy.

Motorways of the Sea under development at both sides of the Mediterranean Sea

At a meeting in Brussels on 17 July port and shipping industry representatives active in the Mediterranean gathered to discuss further steps on how to put in place the Motorways of the Sea concept in the Mediterranean Region. The European Commission is promoting the development of Motorways of the Sea projects at both sides of the Mediterranean Sea. Through its MEDA programme the Commission encourages partner countries, together with EU partners, to engage in the preparation of development plans to strengthen their maritime connections.

Presented pilot projects introduced plans on the improvement of port reception capacities, speed-up paperwork, improve IT-systems, develop further transport infrastructure and sustainable growth and expansion. Since some projects contained good ideas but lacked information, the Commission gave the interested parties until 15 September to compile their proposals, then the Commission will establish a detailed support and assistance plan, together with performance indicators and milestones.

WWF gives bad marks to the Baltic States for poor care of Baltic Sea

According to a new report from WWF, the Baltic Sea ecosystem could collapse, unless states bordering it find common ground on ways

to decrease maritime pollution. The report accuses governments of failing to take responsibility for working to improve the situation.

Vast algal blooms cover large parts of the Baltic Sea, killing off large swathes of the seabed as oxygen fails to spread throughout the water - a process known as eutrophication. The build-up of plant growth is caused by an increase in the volume of nutrients in the water as a result of sewage, shipping pollution or agricultural run-off. Seven of the world's ten largest "dead zones" are found in the Baltic Sea, making it the world's most damaged, according to WWF. But despite the situation, all nine Baltic Sea states (Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Russia, Finland, Sweden and Poland) have failed to take the necessary measures. All nine states received an "extremely disappointing" F grade (ranging from 25 % for Poland to 46 % for Germany) - a key failing being cooperation on integrated and concerted actions. The report showcases Finland as the only country in the region to have a cross-sectoral marine policy that addresses all these issues as a whole. The WWF hopes this will have a knock-on effect among other countries and believes the EU's new Maritime Policy should then add the necessary impetus to seek a common solution to the problem.

The recent EU Maritime Strategy Directive calls on member states to achieve good environmental status of the EU's marine waters by 2021 and to protect the resource base upon which marine-related economic and social activities depend. Additionally, the Commission is expected to propose a Baltic Sea Strategy by June 2009, which will concentrate on enhancing marine environment standards.

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AUSTRIA

Implementation status of the Austrian National Action Plan Danube Navigation



The National Action Plan Danube Navigation (NAP) is Austria's political tool for the implementation of the European Commission's inland navigation policy as laid down in the NAIADES action programme. The NAP was drawn up by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (bmvit) and represents a dynamic tool that points the way for the Austrian navigation policy until 2015. The heart of the NAP is made up of a comprehensive catalogue of measures which is further broken down into ten areas and forty independent measures.

Since January 2007 the Austrian waterway management authority 'via Donau - Österreichische Wasserstraßen-Gesellschaft mbH' implements the NAP, which will be periodically updated and brought in line with current developments. In Mai 2008 via Donau and the bmvit together presented the first implementation report of the NAP to the Austrian inland navigation sector. Most of the forty measures have been started, some of them already completely implemented. The step-by-step realization of this program shall result in the long-term strengthening of Danube navigation,

thus leading to an increase of the annual transport volume on the Austrian stretch of the Danube from currently 12 million tonnes to 25 – 29 million tonnes in 2015.

General Information (available in English language) can be found at http://www.via-donau.org/en/navigation/navigation_policy; for more information about the implementation report (only available in German language), please visit <http://www.via-donau.org/schifffahrt/schifffahrtspolitik>.

Markus Simoner
Senior Expert Policy
Implementation via Donau

ON THE CALENDAR

8th International Conference on Coasts, Ports and Marine Structures (ICOPMAS)



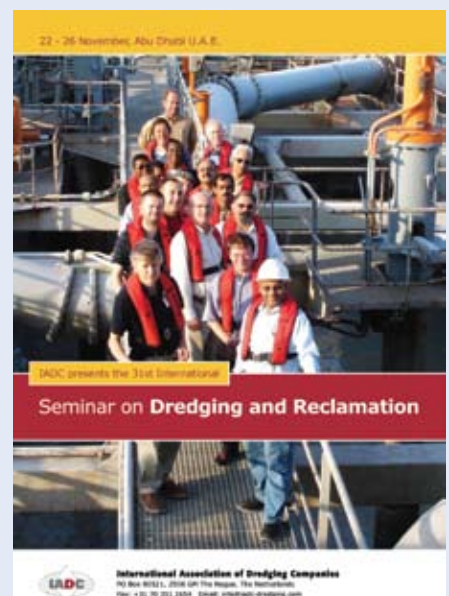
The 8th International Conference on Coasts, Ports and Marine Structures (ICOPMAS) will be held from 24 until 26 November 2008 in Tehran, Iran. The conference will provide a forum for exchange of experiences and views of those involved in coasts and ports engineering and marine projects from different countries and being informed about their latest scientific, technical and experimental achievements. On this basis, the main emphasis is put on the promo-

tion of the practical quality of the coasts, ports and marine structures engineering in Iran.

In addition ICOPMAS 2008 will provide an appropriate ground for presentation of the existing specialized capabilities of the region. In this relation, the experts, consultants, contractors and manufacturers of port and marine equipment will also find an opportunity to present their capabilities and therefore the necessary bases will be prepared for employers, investors, consultant engineers, contractors and the other people who look for coasts, ports and marine structures engineering services and facilities in respect to making decisions, planning and future cooperation.

If you wish to find more information, please visit <http://www.icopmas.pso.ir/en/webui/index.aspx>.

31st International Seminar on Dredging and Reclamation



The International Association of Dredging Companies (IADC) presents the 31st International Seminar on Dredging and Reclamation,

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which will take place from 22 until 26 November 2008 at Le Royal Méridien Hotel in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. This five-day event strives to provide an understanding through lectures by experts in the field and workshops. Some of the subjects covered are:

- the development of new ports and maintenance of existing ports;
- project phasing (identification, investigation, feasibility studies, design, construction, and maintenance);
- descriptions of types of dredging equipment and boundary conditions for their use;
- state-of-the-art dredging techniques as well as environmentally sound techniques;
- pre-dredging and soil investigations, designing and estimating from the contractor's view;
- costing of projects and types of contracts such as charter, unit rates, lump sum and risk-sharing agreements.

An important feature of the seminars is a trip on a trailing suction hopper or a cutter suction dredger to visit a dredging project. For further information, please contact Mr. Frans-Herman Cammel at camel@iadc-dredging.com or call the IADC Secretariat at + 31 70 352 33 34.

3rd European Conference and Exhibition on Inland Terminals



After Germany (Duisburg) and Belgium (Antwerp), the European Conference and Exhibition on Inland Terminals moves to France for its third edition. The Port Autonome de Paris, Europe's second biggest inland port, hosts the event as main sponsor.

The carefully selected topics will be presented and explained in a clear and expert manner by again carefully selected speakers. As on previous occasions, the third European Conference and Exhibition on Inland Terminals wants to provide a forum for the terminals to show off their specific assets to a changing world of ever more intricate logistical networks and increasingly complex supply chains. To underline the intrinsic relationship between terminal operations and logistics services, the overall theme of the conference will be 'The operational aspects of Inland Hubs'.

To obtain maximum exposure vis-à-vis the main target groups the Conference addresses decision makers in following sectors:

- Inland port authorities
- Inland terminal operators
- Barge owners and agents
- Railway companies
- Road haulers
- Sea port authorities
- Logistic service providers
- Shipping lines
- Forwarders and shippers

Especially this last sector will be targeted, as forwarders and shippers are by definition the potential clients of the Inland Terminals.

If you wish to find more information, please visit <http://www.inlandterminals.com/> and find out all about it.

Littoral 2008 – A changing coast: Challenge for the environmental policies

The 9th International Conference 'Littoral 2008' will take place from 25 until 28 November 2008 in Venice, Italy. Littoral 2008 is a major and unique European coastal event attracting an international audience

of coastal researchers, managers, practitioners and public administrations. This year, the conference has a unique opportunity to build upon some recent developments in coastal management. At this four-day event there will be a (parallel) full day session dedicated to ENCORA, more than thirty technical sessions comprising ninety minutes for oral presentations, a large poster session, and a final session to launch the European Coastal Platform. A number of workshops and meetings will complete the event programme. In the evenings, a special cultural event will be offered to delegates, in addition to the traditional conference dinner.

All information about the conference can be found at <http://www.littoral2008.corila.it/home.php>.

3rd Indian Ocean Ports and Logistics 2008 – Exhibition and Conference

The 3rd Indian Ocean Ports and Logistics 2008 Exhibition and Conference will take place at the luxurious five-star Hilton Mauritius Resort and Spa on 30 and 31 October 2008. The event will be hosted by Mauritius Ports Authority.

The two-day conference will feature 25 world-class conference speakers in global transport and logistics attended by a gathering of 300 senior executive delegates from the world's leading shippers, cargo owners, shipping lines, freight forwarders, logistics companies, importers/exporters, ports, terminal operating companies, railway operators, port equipment and services suppliers from the USA, Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

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Furthermore, there will be the commercial opportunity for 35 exhibitors and sponsors to showcase the latest products and services to more than 350 international participants at this international transportation and logistics Exhibition and Conference taking place on the beautiful island of Mauritius.

More information can be found at http://www.transportevents.com/event_page.cfm?event_content_id=229.