

From the Director

Since the second newsletter which appeared in June, I have visited all our existing, new and potential China ISRA members. Together with Bernard Veldhoven and Tom Peter Blankestijn we also had a meeting with James MacFarlane in Amsterdam. Moreover Tom Peter and I were present on the 2009 Asia Ship Recycling Summit, in Shanghai. We both did a speech, so did Ben Lau from Lloyd's Register. So ISRA was well represented!

Visit to China

Going to Shanghai for the speech was a good opportunity to meet our ISRA members in China. Our Board Chairwoman Janice guided me to Jiangmen Zhongxin Shipbreaking and Jiangmen Yinhu Shipbreaking Co, Ltd both in South China. The latter is our new member and very active in a development program, including ISO 30.000 certification process. After the conference a visit was paid to Jiang Xiangang Changjiang Shiprecycling Yard, North of Shanghai. A very impressive large yard with multiple docks handling over 20 ships at the same time. Good to see that all members had business.

New members

I am proud to present again two new members (still subject ISRA board approval): Our new candidate A member is ERS/ECOMAR in Port of Lazaro Cardenas, Mexico. Welcome Namik Idil!

New Associated member is Adviesbureau van de Poel BV, Maritime Asbestos & recycling Consultant (m.a.r.c.) www.vandepoel.nl Welcome Marc van de Poel!

Members Jiang Xiangang Changjiang and Adviesbureau van de Poel working together in asbestos removal.

Marc just returned from Jiang Xiangang Changjiang Shipbreaking Yard where he gave an update and new instruction on asbestos removal. Also the asbestos removal standards were upgraded. The yard already has strict procedures in place but is still improving in order to fully meet the future ISO standard. Therefore negative pressure installations were installed on board the vessel, all decontamination facilities were available and the workers were well instructed with several on-site sessions and workshops. For clearance- and reassurance tests after asbestos removing an independent Hong Kong based test laboratory was contracted. But a well equipped laboratory is already available on this yard for future developments. Asbestos surveys, work procedures, on-site instruction were provided by Adviesbureau van de Poel BV as a member of Maersk Ship Management Recycling Team. In the near future these maritime activities will become available to all under the new brand name, "Maritime Asbestos & Recycling Consultant (m.a.r.c.)".

Sad headlines

ALANG (BHAVNAGAR): Six labourers were suffocated to death after a major fire erupted in a ship in one of world's largest ship-breaking yards at Alang. The fire broke out when the workers were dismantling the engine of tanker MSC Jessica. All the six died on the spot. Sources in Alang said the dismantling of MSC Jessica had been going on for a month at Alang Auto & General Engineering Co-op Pvt Ltd.

On Tuesday morning, 4th august, the workers started breaking the engine room. Officials of Alang fire brigade, who rushed to the spot, said it took around six hours to bring the blaze under control. Source: The Times of India 5th august 2009.

This brings the rate to 10 fatal accidents in Alang this year! ISRA really hopes that the situation will improve at Alang so no more workers will get injured or die.

Annual general meeting

Please do not forget to subscribe to our 2009 Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held in the Swiss Hotel in Izmir on Monday 14th December 2009. See also memo 26.

Arjen Uytendaal
Director

For more information, please visit our website: www.isra-dis.com