

EVENTS OF THE LAST YEAR



Research

Darren Broderick has joined the team for three years working on a design project with Newcastle University, funded by the Knowledge Transfer Partnership. He is conducting research into optimising vessel design to gain optimum benefit of modern surface preparation and coating technologies that will lead to his Doctorate from Newcastle University. Partners in the project are ABS, Jotun, IHC Merwede, Muehlhan. Darren also presented the project at the RINA Marine Coatings conference in Feb 2010.



Membership

Safinah's managing director, Dr Raouf Kattan, has become chairman of the NACE IMO Advisory Council (CAI) looking at vessel coating issues relating to corrosion, vessel performance and ballast water treatment systems. Safinah was recently invited, and has accepted, to become a corporate partner member of Royal Institution of Naval Architects and is now a Bronze Corporate member of NACE.



Safinah has recently passed its three year accreditation to ISO 9001:2008.

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Inspection Services

In response to market demand Safinah has now launched the International Independent Coating Inspector network (IICIN) to provide inspection services worldwide to all our clients. See the website for details www.iicin.com



Projects

Work has begun on the European FP7 funded BESST project (Breakthrough in European Ship and Shipbuilding Technologies) which aims to identify a step change for coating for European built ships. Partners are STX Finland, Meyerwerft, Fincantieri, TNO, and the Danish Technical Institute.

The last year has seen an increased involvement in the mega yacht sector and insurance claims. Perhaps predictably, there has been a noticeable dip in new building involvement but this has been more than compensated for with projects in maintenance and repair.

Safinah have also started to get involved in the renewable energy sector, particularly with off shore wind turbines where there is a clear need for correct coating specification around the base and splash zone of the towers.

Personnel

Two new consultants have joined the team: Mr Alan Guy and Dr Clare Till. Alan is a chemist who has many years experience in the paint industry spanning research through to product development. He has considerable knowledge of polymers and paint which he has been applying to offshore wind turbine requirements.

Clare, also a chemist, has spent many years within the coating industry, working with various coatings businesses to find solutions to coatings problems. She has extensive experience of assessing paint failures in Marine, Yacht, PC and Powder Coatings.

Dr David Arnold – a much valued member of the team - has retired. Safinah, however, have retained his services as an associate.