ICNAME | Innovation & Cooperation in Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering Association

Maritime Information Brief

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ICNAME Members News

HEU Team Reveals New Mechanism of High-Temperature Vapor-Ventilated Supercavitation for Underwater Drag Reduction

A research team from the College of Shipbuilding Engineering at Harbin Engineering University published new findings in the *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, revealing the interfacial instability and thermo-hydrodynamic mechanisms of high-temperature vapor-ventilated supercavitation. The study provides new theoretical support for drag reduction technologies used in high-speed underwater vehicles and offers insights into the coupled effects of temperature, vapor and cavity dynamics.

Source: Harbin Engineering University News
Link: https://news.hrbeu.edu.cn/info/1015/89453.htm

Construction Begins on 271,000-cbm QC-Max LNG Carrier under CCS Survey

Construction officially began on the H1956A 271,000-cbm QC-Max LNG carrier for QatarEnergy at Hudong-Zhonghua Shipbuilding. The vessel, independently designed by Hudong-Zhonghua, measures 344 meters in length and features high-efficiency propulsion and intelligent control systems to reduce fuel consumption and carbon emissions. China Classification Society Shanghai Branch is providing classification and survey services for the project.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?id=202609240281832557

Next-Generation Green Cruise Ship Century Dream Begins Yangtze River Service

The new-generation green cruise ship *Century Dream*, surveyed by China Classification Society, began its maiden voyage on the Yangtze River. The 149.98-meter vessel uses electric propulsion and meets CCS Green Ship-2 standards, while also receiving high-level comfort notations for noise and vibration. The vessel represents a new step in green and high-quality inland cruise shipping.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?id=202609240266777320

China's First Domestically Designed 88,000-cbm Very Large Gas Carrier Delivered

The 88,000-cbm very large gas carrier *Changping Yuan*, surveyed by CCS, was named

and delivered at COSCO Shipping Offshore Engineering in Qidong. It is China's first domestically designed and built VLGC flying the Chinese flag. The vessel features LPG dual-fuel propulsion, energy-saving devices, intelligent ship systems and compatibility with ammonia cargo, strengthening China's capabilities in green and intelligent gas carrier construction.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?columnId=20190002000000055&id=202609170925666166

World's First 325,000-dwt Methanol Dual-Fuel Ore Carrier Named

The world's first 325,000-dwt methanol dual-fuel ore carrier, *Yuanhai Silk Road*, was officially named at Yangzhou COSCO Shipping Heavy Industry. CCS participated in plan approval and construction survey. The vessel combines green propulsion with digital ship delivery technologies and represents a significant advance in large bulk carrier decarbonization.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?columnId=20190002000000055&id=202609070229167313

CCS Supports Completion of 5,000-tonne Green Intelligent Pinglu Canal Demonstration Vessel

The 5,000-tonne green and intelligent demonstration vessel *Beigang Yunhe 001* was completed with technical support from China Classification Society. CCS carried out studies on navigation zones, seaworthiness and technical standards to support direct river-sea transportation through the Pinglu Canal. The vessel will serve as a reference for future standardized, green and intelligent ship types operating along the new transport corridor.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?id=202609170963230568

CCS Certifies Smart Ship and Unmanned Vessel Test Site in Wanshan

China Classification Society issued a supplier approval certificate to the Wanshan smart ship and unmanned vessel test facility operated with Southern Marine Science and

Engineering Guangdong Laboratory. The certification marks progress toward standardized and systematic testing services for intelligent ships and unmanned surface vessels in China.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?id=202609170980336287

China Issues First Carbon-Footprint Compliance Statement for Container Ship Repair

CCS Shanghai Branch issued China's first carbon-footprint compliance statement for container ship repair to COSCO Shipping Heavy Industry Shanghai for the vessel *Qingyunhe*. The certification supports carbon accounting and lifecycle emissions management in ship repair and conversion and represents another step toward low-carbon shipyard operations.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?id=202609170990865996

China Launches National Standard for Ship Product Carbon Footprint Accounting

A national standard development project titled *Greenhouse Gases — Product Carbon Footprint Quantification Methods and Requirements — Ships* was launched at CCS Jiangsu Branch. Representatives from shipbuilding, shipping, equipment manufacturing, universities and research institutes will jointly develop methods for quantifying ship carbon footprints across the lifecycle.

Source: China Classification Society
Link:
https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?columnId=20190002000000055&id=202609151032305992

CCS Holds New-Energy Ship Technology Workshop in Harbin

CCS Harbin Branch organized a technical workshop focused on new-energy vessels and green shipping. Experts discussed battery systems, methanol engines and ship design for cold-region operating conditions, providing technical guidance for the development of low-carbon shipping in Heilongjiang and other northern waterways.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?id=202609151148376192

Deep-Diving Support Mother Ship Begins Construction under CCS Survey

Construction began in Guangzhou on a deep-diving support mother ship surveyed by CCS. The vessel will feature fully azimuthing electric propulsion and DP3 dynamic positioning and will support deepwater lifting, flexible pipe laying, saturation diving, air diving and emergency evacuation operations for offshore facilities.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?columnId=201900002000000055&id=202609020976647217

CCS Showcases Green and Digital Technologies at Nantong Ship and Offshore Engineering Expo

China Classification Society showcased its latest technologies in green shipping, digital ship delivery, intelligent manufacturing and carbon-footprint management at the 7th Nantong Shipbuilding and Offshore Engineering Industry Expo. CCS also conducted technical exchanges and certification activities covering several emerging areas of ship and offshore engineering.

Source: China Classification Society
Link: https://www.ccs.org.cn/ccswz/articleDetail?id=202609171076031436

Other Maritime News

MARIN Joins New WAVE Cluster to Accelerate Maritime Decarbonisation Technologies

The Maritime Research Institute Netherlands (MARIN) has joined the newly launched WAVE cluster together with Alpha Marine Consulting, lomarlabs and C-Job Naval Architects. The initiative aims to accelerate the integration and validation of emerging maritime decarbonisation technologies, particularly solutions at Technology Readiness Levels 3–7. MARIN will contribute independent maritime research, assessment and validation capabilities to help innovative technologies move from laboratory development toward real-world shipboard deployment.

Source: Maritime Research Institute Netherlands (MARIN)
Link: https://www.marin.nl/en/news/marin-joins-new-wave-cluster-to-accelerate-maritime-decarbonisation-technologies

MARIN Launches Full-Scale Measurements to Evaluate Air Lubrication Performance

MARIN is developing new full-scale measurement techniques to assess the actual energy-saving performance of air lubrication systems installed on ships. The research combines gas-fraction sensors, wall shear stress sensors and observation equipment to measure the behaviour of the air layer beneath operating vessels. The work is intended to give shipowners more reliable data on how air lubrication affects vessel speed, propulsion power and overall efficiency.

Source: Maritime Research Institute Netherlands (MARIN)
Link: https://www.marin.nl/en/news/full-scale-measurements-to-gain-air-lubrication-performance-insights

MARIN Upgrades BlueRoute Tool for Wind-Assisted Ship Propulsion

MARIN released an upgraded version of its BlueRoute application for evaluating the fuel-saving potential of wind propulsion systems. The updated tool can combine long-term wind statistics with vessel and wind-propulsor performance models and now supports four-degree-of-freedom equilibrium calculations involving thrust, side force, yawing moment and heeling moment. The tool is designed to support wind-assisted ship design from early concept development through more detailed engineering stages.

Source: Maritime Research Institute Netherlands (MARIN)
Link: https://www.marin.nl/en/publications/interested-in-the-saving-potential-of-

wind-propulsion-for-your-ship-try-marins-updated-blueroute-application

DNV Approves New 271,000-cbm LNG Carrier Design

DNV awarded Approval in Principle to HD Hyundai Heavy Industries for a new 271,000-cbm LNG carrier design. The vessel features five membrane-type cargo tanks, dual-fuel propulsion, a reliquefaction plant and AI-enabled systems for voyage support, operational monitoring and energy optimization. Despite its very large cargo capacity, the design is intended to remain compatible with both the Suez and Panama canals.

Source: DNV
Link: https://www.dnv.com/news/2026/dnv-awards-hd-hhi-aip-for-271k-cbm-lng-carrier/

DNV and HD KSOE Advance Software-Defined Vessel Technologies

DNV and HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering signed an agreement to collaborate on assurance frameworks for Software Defined Vessel technologies. The work will explore verification, lifecycle assurance, software updates and technical evidence requirements for software-centric ship platforms. The collaboration reflects the maritime sector's transition toward vessels whose operational capabilities can increasingly be upgraded and managed through software.

Source: DNV
Link: https://www.dnv.com/news/2026/news-page-ma_dnv-and-hd-ksoe-to-collaborate-on-assurance-frameworks-for-software-defined-vessel-technologies/

DNV Says Global LNG Bunker Fleet May Need to More Than Double by 2030

A new DNV white paper estimates that between 165 and 208 LNG bunker vessels could be required globally by 2030 as the number of LNG-fueled ships expands. DNV notes that LNG-powered shipping is currently growing faster than the infrastructure needed to supply it, creating increasing pressure for investment in bunker vessels, fuel supply systems, safety frameworks and crew competence.

Source: DNV
Link: https://www.dnv.com/news/2026/LNG-bunker-fleet-may-need-to-more-than-double-by-2030-to-keep-pace-with-growing-fuel-demand/

Lloyd's Register and MARIC Unveil Tri-Fuel-Ready Tanker Concept

Lloyd's Register and the Marine Design and Research Institute of China received Approval in Principle for a new 114,000-dwt tanker designed for future conversion to LNG, methanol or ammonia. The concept aims to provide shipowners with greater flexibility as the availability, economics and regulation of alternative fuels continue to evolve.

Source: Lloyd's Register
Link: https://www.lr.org/en/knowledge/press-room/press-listing/press-release/2026/lloyds-register-and-maric-unveil-tri-fuel-ready-tanker-concept-designed-to-navigate-fuel-uncertainty/

Lloyd's Register Launches RouteFlex for Dynamic Container Stowage Optimization

Lloyd's Register launched RouteFlex, a digital application that combines voyage-specific metocean information with container stowage planning. The tool is intended to help operators improve vessel utilization and cargo flexibility while accounting for changing weather conditions, route diversions and operational uncertainty.

Source: Lloyd's Register
Link: https://www.lr.org/en/knowledge/press-room/press-listing/press-release/2026/lloyds-register-launches-routeflex-to-provide-unprecedented-stowage-flexibility-for-container-operators/

IMO R&D Forum Addresses Pollution Risks from Alternative Marine Fuels

An IMO Research and Development Forum in Singapore brought together regulators, scientists and maritime industry representatives to examine pollution-response challenges associated with LNG, LPG, methanol, ammonia, hydrogen, biofuels and e-fuels. Discussions covered spill behaviour, risk assessment, modelling, emergency response and international cooperation.

Source: International Maritime Organization
Link: https://www.imo.org/en/mediacentre/pages/whatsnew-2497.aspx

IMO Examines New Competence Requirements for Alternative-Fuel Shipping

IMO, the European Maritime Safety Agency and the World Maritime University organized discussions on future training and competence requirements for seafarers. Topics included ammonia, methanol, hydrogen, batteries and onboard carbon capture

systems, reflecting the increasing need to align crew training with new ship technologies and alternative fuels.

Source: International Maritime Organization
Link: https://www.imo.org/en/mediacentre/pages/whatsnew-2499.aspx

Wärtsilä Receives Japan's First Approval for Remote Marine Engine Support Facility

Wärtsilä Japan received Japan's first certification as a Remote Support Facility for marine engines under a national approval scheme. The certification allows Wärtsilä experts to provide remote diagnostics and digitally enabled maintenance for Wärtsilä 31DF dual-fuel engines installed aboard MOL Sunflower vessels, supporting optimized maintenance and reduced vessel downtime.

Source: Wärtsilä
Link: https://www.wartsila.com/jpn/en/media/local-news/17-09-2026-wartsila-secures-japans-first-facility-for-remote-support-approval-for-marine-engines

VLCC Newbuilding Orders Surge as Shipyard Capacity Tightens

Veson Nautical data reported by Seatrade Maritime News show that the global VLCC orderbook reached approximately 38% of the existing fleet in September 2026. However, limited shipyard capacity and equipment availability could constrain further contracting despite strong tanker market demand.

Source: Seatrade Maritime News
Link: https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/tankers/vlcc-newbuild-order-surge-set-to-stall-as-yards-max-out

Wind-Powered Neoliner Origin Expands Transatlantic Cargo Service

The wind-powered RoRo cargo vessel *Neoliner Origin* made its first call at Zeebrugge, Belgium, expanding its regular transatlantic service. The vessel uses wind propulsion to reduce the carbon footprint of cargo transportation and connects European ports with destinations including Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon, Baltimore and Halifax.

Source: The Maritime Executive / CMA CGM
Link: https://maritime-executive.com/corporate/wind-powered-cargo-vessel-neoliner-origin-makes-its-first-call-in-belgium-as-zeebrugge-joins-its-regular-transatlantic-service

Qatar-Linked LNG Carrier Traffic Through Strait of Hormuz Begins to Recover

Reuters reported that several QatarEnergy-linked LNG carriers resumed visible transits through the Strait of Hormuz in late September after sharply reduced movements during August. The development highlights the continuing importance of the waterway for global LNG transportation and the impact of regional security conditions on maritime energy logistics.

Source: Reuters
Link: https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/qatar-linked-lng-traffic-through-hormuz-strait-picks-up-despite-conflict-2026-09-28/