

Paints and Coatings/Anti-Foulings

decided in March 2012 to switch its 24,409 grt ro/ro ferry *Partenope* to the Sigmaglide 990 solution in order to benefit from such significant fuel and operational savings.

Tomasos Brothers manages a fleet of modern crude, product, chemical tankers and bulk carriers. These vessels are contracted to transport clients' valuable and industrial

products safely and efficiently – thus, the major benefits of the Sigmaglide 990 system will prove to be a great asset in achieving this mission.

Sigmaglide 990 pure silicone fouling release coating has superior fouling release and fuel savings performance. In these competitive economic times, owners and operators are looking to combine enhanced productivity,

environmental compliance and reduced costs. This is why Greek owners, always on the forefront of the shipping trends, choose the Sigmaglide 990 system for their fleets to deliver the best performance available today. It is therefore no surprise that more than 250 vessels worldwide currently benefit from the unique solution provided by the Sigmaglide system. **SORJ**

Tahoka Press publishes van Rompay book

A new book, *Surface Treated Composites White Book* – A proven, non-toxic, cost-effective alternative technology for underwater ship hull protection and biofouling control, by Boud Van Rompay has been published by Tahoka Press and is available for purchase online at TahokaPress.com.

The *Surface Treated Composites White Book* is a complete reference on hard, non-toxic hull coating systems and in-water cleaning. It covers all related issues including the environmental hazards of biocidal coatings and the cost-effectiveness of surface treated composite hard coatings combined with routine in-water cleaning. The information in this book can save shipowners and operators between 8 and 40% of their current fuel bill while giving them an environmentally benign way to protect their ships' hulls and keep them smooth and free of fouling.

The *Surface Treated Composites White Book* is a description of a better, alternative, non-toxic, cost-effective, environmentally safe technology for protecting the underwater hulls of ships and keeping them free of biofouling. 'Alternative' because it takes a 180° opposite vector to the generally used, conventional systems of painting the underwater hulls of ships with highly toxic heavy metals and biocides as a means of protecting the hulls and keeping them clean. 'Better' because its standard application can reduce the cost of maritime transport significantly while greatly lowering the environmental impact of shipping. This alternative technology begins with the premises that the marine environment should be kept clean and free of toxic chemicals which pollute the water and contaminate the sediment, that shipping should be able to operate and expand without harming or destroying the very environment on which it operates, that there is a non-toxic answer and that that answer is also the most economical way to sail.

The *Surface Treated Composites White Book* is essential reading for anyone who has any connection with protecting the underwater hulls of ships, who is responsible for operating ships economically, for reducing the impact

of shipping on the environment. Shipowners, ship operators, officers, naval architects, ship builders, the IMO, government officials responsible for maintaining a sustainable marine environment, officials in charge of navies and government owned and operated fleets, NGOs, shipyard operators, anyone who has any interest in or responsibility for the efficient and ecologically sound operation of ships and shipping. The book is the result of 40 years of research, development, study and practical application and experience added to the wealth of information on the subject which has been researched and recorded by caring and intelligent minds around the world.

Boud Van Rompay is the Founder and CEO of Hydrex, an international underwater technology company which delivers advanced underwater repairs and maintenance. Mr Van Rompay began his career as a diver and

acquired extensive experience with underwater technologies. He is also an inventor with a long string of patents to his name. One of these patents is for *Surface Treated Composite (STC)* underwater hull coating system which he researched and developed as an answer to the very serious marine pollution which he witnessed and quickly traced to the toxic antifouling coatings in use on ships and boats generally. Seeing that a non-toxic solution was urgently needed, he set out to develop one. That system and its success are fully documented in this book, with all the theoretical and practical knowledge to put it into full effect. Mr Van Rompay sees every ship that gets off the toxic bandwagon and adopts an environmentally safe approach to hull protection and fouling control as one step closer to a clean, pollution free marine environment – his goal.

Boud Van Rompay

