

And the Winner is...

In the Netherlands the Maritime Awards Gala is an important event on the calendar – these are the people shaping the maritime future. But while showcasing this country’s marine technology, who gets the award – the big fish in the small pond, or the Dutch innovators changing the global industry?

On the night of 8 November, more than 800 professionals from all the Dutch maritime industries gathered for the Maritime Awards Gala 2012 at the Cruise Terminal in Rotterdam – an annual networking gala that mixes business with wining and dining. The great innovations on show play a huge part in the Netherlands maritime industrial development. A night such as this showcases the incredibly dynamic community of passionate and engaged professionals working to provide innovative solutions and inventions.

Without doubting the expert knowledge of the jury panels (to question is the key to knowledge), I can’t help but question if all this year’s winners were the best the maritime industry has on offer. Obviously, there will always be some discussion after the fact. But to my knowledge, for instance, quite a number of parties didn’t get at all why the ShoreTension system wasn’t awarded the final winner in its category. After all, the revolutionary mooring device probably is the answer to a worldwide study to counteract the dangerous effects of wash and suction forces caused by passing ships and swell on moored vessels. Maritime journalists of leading magazines from all over the world

recently gathered to witness this compact and environmentally-friendly device at work in the Port of Rotterdam. The Netherlands can really make a name for itself with this mooring device (and just for the record, I have no bias to any organisations or advertisers).

When it comes to global game-changers, other nominations also deserve credit. Anthony Veder is leading the world with its new LNG-fuelled gas carrier and Kranendonk produced a completely new and innovative flange welding system for IHC Piping.

Shore-to-ship power – just to name one of the award-winning nominations – is an important development for the Netherlands, but not a world first. The global ports and shipping industry is a big pond, and like this magazine, it doesn’t stop at the border. I believe the Dutch innovators changing the global industry deserve the spotlight... May this issue’s article on the ShoreTension system be of some compensation and recognition for this revolutionary ‘Made in Holland’ device.



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Front cover: As larger and faster ships move in and out of ports, the Research On the Passing Effects on Ships (ROPES) group works to understand the effect of wash on safety, infrastructure and berthing efficiency. Read the update on page 28. Rotterdam's Royal Boatsmen's Association (KRVE) developed an ingenious shore-based mooring solution – the ShoreTension system. Read a full report on page 42. Photo courtesy of KRVE

Background contents page: A dredger rainbowing during the Maasvlakte 2 port reclamation project at the Port of Rotterdam. APM Terminals will operate the world's most advanced container operation when its Maasvlakte 2 site opens for business in 2014. Read more on page 40. Photo courtesy of Danny Cornelissen

Word on the Sea



Rob



Vincent



Yellow & Finch Publishers circumnavigate the maritime world to bring you back the latest industry news. Find out what the 'Word on the Sea' is with Rob van Akkeren and Vincent Vinkoert.

As the World Turns

Yellow & Finch's Rob van Akkeren & Vincent Vinkoert

Vincent: There's no slowdown in the busy trade fair circuit. My colleague Rob and I explored two shows that literally keep the ports and shipping world turning. The first was **Valve World Expo 2012** in Düsseldorf, Germany. Walking between all the myriad fittings, actuators, ball joint valves and butterfly valves, it makes you wonder if the earth could still spin without them? They're in every engineering solution from shipbuilding to gas logistics to subsea operations.

We visited **Redpoint Alloys, Regal, Duxvalves, Merwede, Cameron, Arflu, MRC, Adesso** and sealing companies **ERIKS**, and **PPE**. Also exhibiting was

PetroValves, who delivered valves to the Nordstream pipeline project weighing about 102 t and spanning about 10 m in height. Which gives you an idea of the range on show. Electronic flow controls are also very sophisticated – **Rotork** had a large stand to show all the latest technology about that.

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Rob: Next Vincent and I headed to Amsterdam for **Intermodal Modal 2012** – all about container transport and a great success with 130 exhibitors. The event was new to me and I had some great chats at the stands of **Valspar** coatings, **Seaco** container leasing, **Cargotec** handling, **Caru's** global depots, **Maersk's** innovative reefer machines, custom **BullBox** containers and **Daikin's** reefer units. We got a preview of the brand new container from **DSM** made

of a new lighter material. Not to mention, the world's cargo experts made up an excellent conference programme. Green freight is shaping views toward hinterland rail

and inland shipping. Trucks and container stacker equipment have to deal with new port emissions regulations. These kinds of insights make the shipping world go round, so we'll definitely attend next year's show – in Hamburg.

"These kinds of insights make the shipping world go round."

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