

Press Release

Start of new European Innovation Project LeanShips

The European Innovation Project LeanShips – *Low Energy And Near To Zero Emissions Ships* – will demonstrate the effectiveness and reliability of energy saving and emission reduction technologies at real scale. LeanShips is one of the first projects funded under the new European Research and Innovation Framework Program HORIZON 2020.

The project is coordinated by DAMEN Shipyards Gorinchem (Netherlands) and jointly managed by the Netherlands Maritime Technology Foundation (NMT), the Center of Maritime Technologies e.V. (CMT) from Germany and CETENA S.p.A., the Italian Ship Research Centre. LeanShips officially started on May 1st 2015 with a grant of 17 million Euro. The large project partnership consists of ship owners, shipyards, equipment suppliers and research institutes, in total 46 partners from 12 EU member states and one associated country.

LeanShips aims to put innovations into practice by carrying out eight demonstrator show cases that combine technologies for efficient and less polluting vessels with end-users' needs and requirements. Dedicated teams of equipment manufacturers (technology providers), shipyards (technology integrators) and ship owners (technology users) as well as rule makers will make certain that the innovations developed in the project are matured to market uptake capability.

The following eight demonstrators are part of the project:

- Tugs with liquefied natural gas drive (LNG drive) or compressed natural gas drive (CNG drive) and reverse stern drive (RSD drive)
- Marine diesel oil (MDO) or methanol dual fuel for offshore service vessel
- Efficient LNG carrier
- Retrofit of short sea cargo ship (SECA) with LNG
- Inland cargo ship with large oscillating propulsor
- Large propeller for general cargo vessel
- Energy efficient PAX /cruise ships

The project target markets are the small to midsize ships for intra-European waterborne transport, vessels for offshore operations and the leisure and cruise markets. First impact estimates for LeanShips show fuel saving of up to 25%, CO₂ reduction of at least 25% and an expected decrease of SO_x/NO_x/PM air pollutants by up to 100%. Through their participation in the project, the LeanShips partnership intends to set an example and encourage more ship owners to invest in green technologies.

The project kick off meeting will be held at DAMEN premises in Gorinchem on June 16th and 17th 2015.