

WATERBORNE^{TP} Newsletter

Issue 1 - July 2015

This is the first Issue of the **WATERBORNE** Technology Platform Newsletter, the purpose of which is to provide a regular update on activities of the Platform, including on-going development of the Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda and Roadmap; the Vessels for the Future Association; and the Blue Growth Working Group. This Issue focuses on the latest information on these last two initiatives. Future Issues will focus on FP7 and H2020 projects in which the **WATERBORNE TP** is represented.

***WATERBORNE TP** is an industry-led European Technology Platform recognised by the European Commission as a key actor in driving innovation, knowledge transfer and European competitiveness. The stakeholders include EU associations covering deep and short sea shipping, inland waterways, yards, equipment manufacturers, marine leisure industry, research and university institutions, classification societies, etc. The Support Group is matched by a Mirror Group of government appointed delegates.*

*The **WATERBORNE TP** published a VISION 2020 paper in 2005, a Strategic Research Agenda in 2006 and an Implementation Plan in 2007. In 2011 the WATERBORNE Declaration was published as a position paper for HORIZON 2020. Strategic Research Agenda and Implementation plan have been revised in 2011 and the renewed VISION2025 document has been published. Industry sectors, EU Member States, and the European Commission use these documents to help define calls under the R&D Framework Programs.*

*In order to identify research priorities, the **WATERBORNE TP** has structured itself in two pillars; one Working Group focused on Blue Growth related matters, and the Vessel for the Future Research Association.*

WATERBORNE TP News

Support Group and Mirror Group

A Meeting of the **WATERBORNE TP** Support Group and Mirror Group was held in the ECSA Offices in Brussels on 19th May 2015. Presentations included those provided by the Vessels from the Future Association, the Blue Growth Working Group, and JPI Oceans. The Draft Minutes of the Meeting, in addition to the Presentations, can be downloaded from <http://www.waterborne-tp.org/index.php/documents> .

Third European Maritime Research & Innovation Policy Conference

A well-attended Third European Maritime Research & Innovation Policy Conference was held on 16th June, in Brussels. It focused on two major questions for the waterborne community, i.e.:

- How will the volatility of the oil price impact upon the **WATERBORNE TP** research and innovation agenda towards 2030?
- Do maritime regulations stifle or stimulate technological innovation?

The Conference featured speakers from Rolls Royce, Fincantieri, BMT, MARIN, John Westwood Associates, Bureau Veritas, and Sea Europe, as well as from DG Research & Innovation, and DG Move. The Presentations can be downloaded from <https://app.box.com/s/fsxu3c9nvzfujih1aj54jar1jjpbevb7>

Vessels for the Future

As an initiative of **WATERBORNE TP** the Vessels for the Future Research Association was launched in November 2014 with the aim of establishing a Contractual Public Private Partnership [cPPP] with the European Union under Article 187. As of May 2015, the Association has 59 members in 14 EU Member States. Members represent ship owners, shipyards, ship system suppliers, classification societies, research institutes, university departments and industry associations. The Association has proposed a multi-annual RDI roadmap that focuses on a small number of priority areas, including safer and efficient maritime transport, and developing a competitive industry to create new jobs, which aligns with the **WATERBORNE TP** Strategic Research and Innovation.

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Vessels for the Future News**New Executive Director**

Chris Campbell was appointed Executive Director at the GA held on 28 April and started on 1 May 2015. This is a part time role at this stage and is based in Brussels.

Technology Discussion Workshop

The Association has held a number of technology discussion workshops over the last 3 months. These workshops met to discuss and agree roadmap topics under the following headings: Energy Management, Hull/Water Interaction, E- Maritime, Materials Design Production, Fuels and Propulsion Systems, New Vessel and System Concepts, Ship Safety and Vessel Demonstrator. The aim is to have an updated RDI roadmap by the end of July. VftF will then be in a position to share the RDI roadmap again with other interested parties and the Commission. The board is also drafting a paper that provides an overview of VftF intentions and develops the case for a cPPP with the Commission. It is intended to have this ready for circulation by the end of June.

Blue Growth Working Group

The Blue Growth Working Group contributes to the provision of engineering and technology to support the businesses willing to go at sea for businesses that can be as diverse as renewable energies, aggregate mining, shallow & deep sea mining, offshore oil & gas, shipping, yachting & marinas, cruise tourism, coastal tourism, fisheries, maritime security, biotechnologies, desalination, aquaculture, fish farming, etc.

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Blue Growth Working Group News

- On 12th May, François Duthoit presented Blue Growth to MEPs from the intergroup of Seas and Coastal Areas in the European Parliament.
- The next meeting of the Blue Growth Working Group will be held in Brussels, during September, to discuss the draft H2020 2016/2017 Work Programmes.
- The Waterborne Blue Growth Working Group was invited to speak at the JPI Oceans General Assembly.
- A meeting has been organised with the JPI Ocean secretariat to better coordinate future actions

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