



Meyer Turku to join the Waterborne Technology Platform as its 130th member

Meyer Turku shipyard joins the Waterborne Technology Platform, further strengthening the participation of shipyards and equipment manufacturers in the coordinated approach towards research, development, innovation and its deployment

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The Waterborne Technology Platform (TP) has received and warmly welcomes the application for membership by the shipbuilding company Meyer Turku. The Waterborne Technology Platform provides policy guidance to the European institutions towards research, development, innovation and its deployment, and coordinates the private side of the [Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport Partnership](#). In addition to carrying out the activities in the framework of this partnership, the Waterborne TP has three working groups: Ships & Shipping, Ports & Logistics and Blue Growth, which focus on their respective areas.

The waterborne sector is dynamic, featuring a diverse array of public and private stakeholders. These stakeholders range from classification societies, shipbuilders, and shipowners (both maritime and inland navigation) to equipment manufacturers, ports, infrastructure and service providers (e.g. dredging), as well as universities and research institutes. While large enterprises play a key role in development and innovation in the value chain, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) form the largest part of the EU waterborne sector and play a crucial role as well in the sector and the broader European economy. The various stakeholder groups offer a wide range of services, trades and products. For example, the global fleet can be categorized by different ship types and services, classified according to power requirements and autonomy. Further distinctions are made between liner and tramp shipping and their business models, as well as between retrofitting existing vessels and building new ones. Furthermore, the ecosystem is highly interdependent. Taking these characteristics into account is essential to develop and deploy innovations, including zero-emission solutions, for all segments of the sector.

Recently, the Waterborne Technology Platform has updated its Strategic Research Agenda, laying down the mission and visions of the working groups with a timeline of 2040 and 2050. In the area of “Ships & Shipping” the research activities will focus on zero-emission, safe and secure, connected and automated waterborne transport as well as the transition towards a resilient, competitive and sustainable maritime technology sector.

Marjo Keiramo, Program Director of NEcOLEAP and Green Transition Lab at Meyer Turku, said: *“At Meyer Turku, we are proud to join the Waterborne Technology Platform and contribute to its mission of driving innovation in the maritime sector. As one of Europe’s leading cruise ship builders, we see this collaboration as a vital step in shaping future-oriented, net zero solutions together with a broad network of industry and research partners.”*

Jaap Gebraad, Secretary General, Waterborne TP, added: *“The Waterborne Technology Platform welcomes the application for membership by Meyer Turku, further strengthening our working group Ships & Shipping. In addition, the membership of Meyer Turku adds to our industrial base which is essential in shaping our broader research agendas. Following the recent update of our Strategic Research Agenda, we are currently detailing our Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas (SRIAs). These documents will include the technological roadmaps outlining the research, development, innovation and its deployment needed to achieve our objectives for 2040 and 2050. The SRIAs will*



provide essential input for the proposed successor of Horizon Europe, as well as for the European Competitiveness Fund and the Connecting Europe Facility and for related developments, such as the upcoming industrial maritime and port strategies.”

WATERBORNE TP has been set up as an industry-oriented Technology Platform to establish a continuous dialogue between all waterborne stakeholders, such as classification societies, shipbuilders, shipowners, maritime equipment manufacturers, infrastructure and service providers, universities or research institutes, and with the EU Institutions, including Member States (www.waterborne.eu). The members of Waterborne TP comprise members as well as associated members from both maritime and inland navigation countries, representing about 19 Member States. In addition, the Associations member of the Waterborne Technology Platform represent the broader waterborne sector throughout the entire EU.

Enquiries concerning how to join and become more closely involved in the “Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport” partnership or other activities of the Waterborne TP can be sent to: Jaap Gebraad, Secretary General Waterborne TP, jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu, tel: +32 493 835 626

“**The Meyer Turku Oy shipyard** is specialized in the construction of very demanding, innovative, and environmentally advanced cruise ships, car ferries, and special vessels. The company’s share of the global cruise construction market is approximately 10%, and the shipyard's order books extend to 2027. [Meyer Turku](#)’s largest customers are Royal Caribbean International, the Finnish Border Guard and TUI Cruises.

Meyer Turku employs 2.000 top professionals and operates the Turku shipyard where vessels have been built since 1737. Meyer Turku’s subsidiaries are Piikkio Works Oy, a cabin factory located in Piikkiö, Shipbuilding Completion Oy, which offers complete deliveries to public spaces, and ENG’nd Oy, a shipbuilding and offshore design company based in Rauma. Meyer Turku is constantly striving for more sustainable shipbuilding. The company has identified five UN’s Agenda 2030 goals where they can provide most impact in their operations and cooperation with partners and clients. More information can be found on the shipyard’s [Sustainability Report 2024](#).”