

Safetrans celebrates 10th anniversary!

With the release of SafeTrans 5 and the active participation of the Safetrans members, it now becomes clear that SafeTrans will be the 'de facto' standard for the marine transportation industry. Report outlines a decade of success.



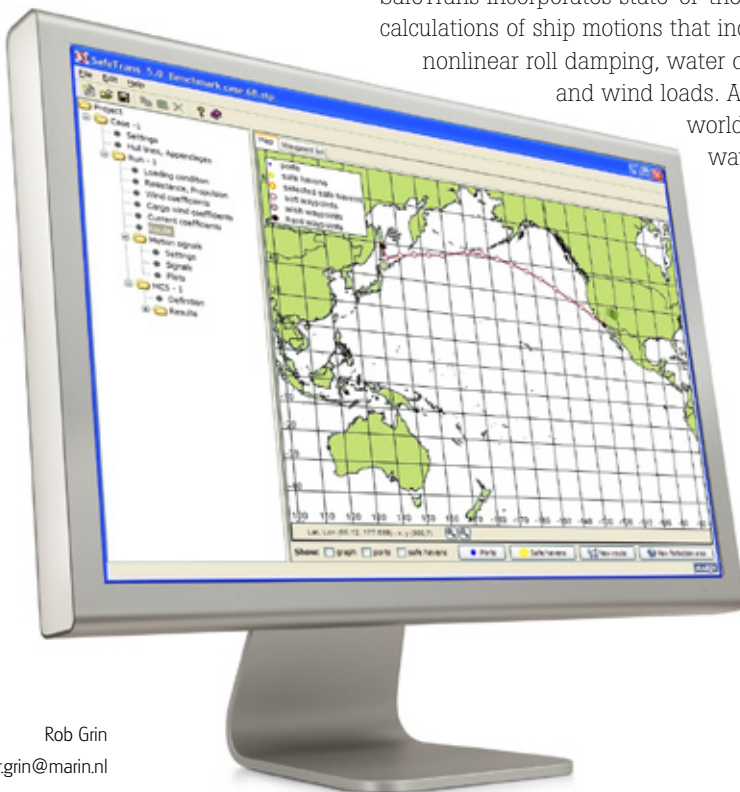
SafeTrans is an integrated tool to design heavy lift transports in a safe and efficient manner. The tool uses voyage simulations or alternatively, a statistical approach with scatter diagrams to obtain design values for wave height and ship motions. This can be done for nearly any type of self-propelled ship, as well as for wet and dry towed transports. Design values and long-term statistics are provided, including voyage duration, fuel consumption and towline loads.

SafeTrans incorporates state-of-the-art calculations of ship motions that include nonlinear roll damping, water on deck and wind loads. A 10-year worldwide wave and

wind database and a hurricane database are also included. This database includes seven-day forecasts. SafeTrans can therefore account for a captain's decision such as rerouting, postponing tasks or going for shelter. This is a big advantage compared to traditional design methods that always assume "unlimited weather conditions" without any weather avoidance.

SafeTrans is the result of a Joint Industry Project that started in 1998 and finalised in 2000 with the release of the beta try-out version. The JIP then transformed into a user group and the first formal release was mid-2001. Seventeen companies are now part of the group that is still growing. Members include heavy lift ship operators, oil companies, warranty surveyors, offshore contractors and engineering firms. Together, the user group has a considerable market share in heavy lift transportation with over one third of the vessels able to lift over 400 tonnes owned or operated by SafeTrans participants.

A lot has been achieved after the first release. Offshore operations have been added, safety and load factors have been determined and engineering guidelines developed. DNV approval was another milestone and recently, SafeTrans 5 was launched. This release has been fully rebuilt, with the latest standards applied to further improve user friendliness, providing an intuitive workflow and ensuring compatibility with today's operating systems and software. ▢



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