



Press release
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New Joint Industry Project investigates lashing loads

Owners, suppliers, authorities and researchers co-operate in a two year project investigating lashing loads to improve safety and economy of container, Ro-Ro and heavy lift transport. The Joint Industry Project Lashing@Sea is initiated by MARIN, the Maritime Research Institute Netherlands.

Recently reported container losses and stow collapses indicate the lack of understanding in the loading and response of present day lashing equipment. It is clear that this jeopardizes the safety of people, navigation and environment.

In other sectors such as ro-ro ferries and heavy lift transport, 'over-lashing' of cargo based on conservative regulations, leads to excessive costs and time in ports. Weather dependent lashing and level playing fields are urged for to improve the economy of these trades.

The Lashing@Sea project is aiming at improving the safety and economy of lashing. This will be achieved by investigating the mechanisms of lashing loads and identifying the key parameters. After a review of the current practice and documented incidents, a monitoring campaign will be conducted on deep sea container vessels. For this purpose a dedicated container will be equipped with sensors to measure the loads, motions and vibrations. Vertical and torsional hull deformations will be monitored as these responses contribute to the lashing loads. Detailed wave information is collected for analysis and long term extrapolation of the results. The monitoring campaign will run for one year and also comprises a short sea container carrier, a ro-ro vessel and a heavy lift ship.

Lashing @Sea is conducted as an Joint Industry Project with the participation of eight ship owners, three lashing suppliers, three class societies and the Dutch Department of Transport. On March 10 the participants assembled at MARIN to discuss the scope and launch the two year project. P&I clubs have been invited by the consortium and are expected to join this initiative shortly.

MARIN

MARIN, the Maritime Research Institute Netherlands, has been an independent and innovative service provider for the maritime industry, since 1932. The services incorporate a unique combination of simulation, model testing, full-scale measurements and training programmes. MARIN provides services to the shipbuilding and offshore industry and governments. Customers include commercial ship builders, fleet owners, naval architects, classification societies, oil and LNG companies and navies, the world over. To fulfil its hydrodynamic research services, MARIN has an exceptional range of computer simulations, model testing, full-scale measurements and training facilities.

Joint Industry Projects

MARIN is always strengthening the link between academic research and market needs. Through this, continuous synergy with the maritime industry is guaranteed. Joint Industry Projects are important tools for this. They combine customer contact, market-driven research and the development of practical tools.

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