Vessel owners join forces to set standards for sea trials

Often the analysis of shipbuilders' speed trials requires application of several corrections to allow for any deviations between conditions during trials and those defined in the shipbuilding contract.

The adverse experience of several ship owners recently suggests that it is about time these corrections were looked at again, as some have not been revised since they were developed 30 or 40 years ago. Hence the reason a group of leading ship owners has initiated the Joint Industry Project "Sea Trial Analysis".

The JIP STA aims to establish transparent and accurate methods for speed and power tests of ships upon delivery. A rational review of the trials analysis procedures will be conducted within the framework of the new ISO Standard 15016. The first phase of the project, which will conducted by MARIN's Trials & Monitoring group, will include a case study to investigate results of trails with various analysis methods. It is also the intention to develop:

- recommended practice for trial procedure and measurements;
- ship-type specific methods for sea trial analysis;software for on-line analysis.

The project focuses on bulk, car and LNG carriers, tankers, container vessels, cruise ships and ferries.

Bergesen, Claus-Peter Offen Reederei, Hapag Lloyd Container Line, Maersk, NSB Reederei, P&O Nedlloyd, Shell Shipping, United European Car Carriers and Vroon, are involved but other shipowners are interested in joining. Shipyards will be invited in the second stage of the project.

Henk van den Boom H.v.d.Boom@marin.nl

