



PRESS RELEASE

New Maritime Al Innovation Lab targets improved ship design and operations

Wageningen, The Netherlands, 31 March 2025 – A consortium of Damen, TU Delft, SafeSystems, RH Marine, NHL Stenden University of Applied Science and MARIN kicked off the Maritime AI Innovation Lab. This new lab provides a unique and modular development environment for the entire maritime industry and aims to improve designs and operations of future ships.

Its broad approach includes physical modelling and measurements on scale models, simulators and in actual operations. These are combined with the latest AI techniques to achieve reliable and trustworthy AI models. Operational gains can be achieved through reduced fuel consumption, timely maintenance and safe operations. By involving onboard crew in developing new working procedures and onboard support tools, scarce personnel can do their work safely and more effective.

Tobias van Dijk, Lab Lead of the Maritime Al Innovation Lab: 'In this lab participating companies, research and knowledge institutes will create the foundation on which future maritime developments will be built. We will approach these developments in short, cyclic innovation tracks and invite companies to bring their ideas and reality to the table to combine that with the knowledge available in the institutes to develop working prototypes. New tracks will be started every six months, starting summer 2025.'

The first tracks start this year, addressing 'safety & workability' and 'emission reduction', including essential blocks like sea state, engine performance and hull interaction, and to build experience with data sharing.

Interested (Dutch) companies are invited to join the first workshop to discuss and submit new tracks.

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