



PRESS RELEASE

ECMAR Appoints New Director

The European Council of Maritime Applied R&D is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Graham Clarke as its new Director, in success to Dr Tony Morrall, with effect from February 2011. Graham is a graduate naval architect, who has worked in both large and small maritime businesses for over 40 years, involved with manufacturing and research aspects of the sector.

In announcing the appointment, Dr Jochen Marzi, the Chairman, expressed his pleasure that the further growth and development of ECMAR would be in the hands of a career maritime technologist, who has been closely involved with the European maritime scene for the past 20 years.

In thanking Dr Morrall for his contribution to the evolution of ECMAR, since its early days, Dr Marzi said: "ECMAR represents a unique sector of Europe's maritime capability and has benefited from the contribution made by Tony, who leaves ECMAR in a strong position to engage with, and to promote, the interests of applied research, on the EU maritime stage. We welcome Graham, who brings a wide range of skills to the post of Director and who is no stranger to the world of Brussels."

Founded in 2006, ECMAR is an association of around 30 applied research organisations, from 14 European countries, where their primary focus is on commercial activities. A key ECMAR function is to make the link between basic research, undertaken by universities, and its use by industry, in which role, ECMAR members have extensive experience of technology transfer for exploitation. ECMAR members undertake a great deal of leading-edge research and investigation work, not least from their extensive hydrodynamic testing facilities, amongst the most advanced in the world.

ECMAR acts as an interface with other networks and with the European Commission and provides facilitation and support for its members in participating in EU research projects. To that end ECMAR has developed a comprehensive strategy, for research and innovation for the European maritime industry and society.

ECMAR also supports the adoption of relevant research priorities of National and EU Framework Programmes for Research and Technology Development. Member organisations, as well as ECMAR itself, are heavily engaged in providing guidance and direction to future R&D objectives and technology requirements.

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