

SEA EUROPE APPOINTED JAAP GEBRAAD AS DIRECTOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS

Brussels, 23 August 2018



SEA Europe, the Shipyards' and Maritime Equipment Association of Europe, appointed Jaap Gebraad (NL) as the association's new Director, responsible for Research, Development and Innovation. Jaap started on the 13th of August.

Jaap has worked for about 10 years as Board Secretary and Senior Project Manager of the "Bureau Innovation Research & Development" of the Foundation STC Group. He was also the Daily Secretary of the European Association Edinna (Education in Inland Navigation). Jaap holds a Bachelor's Degree in Logistics and Economics of the University of Applied Sciences (HES) in Rotterdam and a Master's Degree in Shipping and Transport of the Netherlands Maritime University.

"I am very happy to welcome Jaap as new member of the team at SEA Europe", said SEA Europe's Secretary General Christophe Tytgat. "Jaap has extensive expertise on research, development and innovation issues as well as on social related topics. He has also played an important role, including as coordinator, in EU-funded projects relating to the sector of inland navigation. I am confident that the network and political expertise of Jaap will greatly benefit the work of SEA Europe's RDI working group as well as the Waterborne Technology Platform, of which Jaap will be the secretary".

"I am grateful for this exciting new professional challenge", Jaap added. "I look forward to being part of an industry that has tremendous societal challenges ahead as well as exciting opportunities. Research, development and innovation (RDI) is key to SEA Europe's membership as well as to the wider waterborne sector. RDI will remain a crucial factor for the competitive position of Europe's shipyards and maritime equipment manufacturers. The coming years offer an excellent opportunity to Europe's maritime technology sector to remain a global leader in complex shipbuilding and in sophisticated maritime and marine equipment manufacturing", Jaap concluded.

Background Note: SEA Europe represents close to 100% of the European shipbuilding industry in 16 nations, encompassing the production, maintenance, repair and conversion of all types of ships and floating structures, commercial as well as naval, including the full supply chain with the various producers of maritime systems, equipment material, and services.

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