

## Press Release

Rotterdam, 10 November 2009

### **MIDDLE EASTERN MARITIME MARKET SET FOR EXPONENTIAL GROWTH**

*Global maritime players meet at Ship & Port Dubai 2010, powered by Europort*

**Despite the current challenging economic times the shipbuilding industry in the Middle East has grown phenomenally over the last four years and is set for an exponential growth in the coming period. Because of the global oil transportation the Arabian Gulf is one of the main waterways in the world. More than 2,000 vessels are estimated to be docked or repaired in this region the coming period. The 4th edition of Ship & Port Dubai is tailor-made for international companies to sweep these markets.**

Ship & Port offers her exhibitors a platform to showcase products and services to the most qualified visitors of the Middle East region. The show provides insights into the port and maritime projects in the pipeline in the Middle East. Service providers will be updated on new developments and opportunities in this growing sector.

“Ship & Port has established itself as a key international platform for worldwide industry professionals from the port, shipping and maritime sectors”, according to Raymond Siliakus, Exhibition Manager of Ahoy Rotterdam. “Over 80 percent of the exhibitors at the past Qatar and Dubai editions of the show have underscored its efficiency in fostering new business ties in the Middle East. We have chosen Dubai for this edition as it is an attractive investment area for the maritime industry”

Jeen Joshua from Al Fajer adds: “Dubai has one of the most modern and largest port complexes in the region, making it one of the most prominent trading hubs. Furthermore, the Middle East offers a perfect geographic location in the trade route between Asia and Europe”.

#### **Co-production**

Ship & Port Dubai is a co-production of Al Fajer and Ahoy Rotterdam. The latter has a lot of experience with organizing exhibitions. The maritime exhibition Europort took place recently in Ahoy Rotterdam. The brand Europort has been successfully exported to other maritime regions in the world such as Turkey and Romania. Because of the fact that Ship & Port is such an established brand, the name of the exhibition is maintained. To indicate the involvement of Europort the endorsement ‘powered by Europort’ is introduced. Raymond Siliakus: “Now that Al Fajer and Ahoy Rotterdam have joined forces, the exhibitors and visitors of Ship & Port Dubai will gain access to an even wider range of business opportunities in the Middle East”.

Ship & Port Dubai, powered by Europort takes place from 4 until 26 May 2010 at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre. For more information about the exhibition please check [www.shipport.info](http://www.shipport.info).

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**Editorial note:** For more information or visual material, please contact Jolanda Dietvorst, Communications Executive Ahoy Rotterdam Tel: +31 10 293 31 43 or e-mail: [j.dietvorst@ahoy.nl](mailto:j.dietvorst@ahoy.nl).