

MS&D

THE NEW INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION ON MARITIME SECURITY AND DEFENCE CELEBRATED ITS EXCLUSIVE AND SUCCESSFUL PREMIERE ON 30 SEPT – 02 OCT 2009 IN HAMBURG

With a concept unique for Germany, the Maritime Security & Defence (**MS&D**) started as international conference and specialist fair at “Hamburg Messe” with its new halls right in the heart of the business metropolis and international port city Hamburg.

Security experts from numerous navies as well as politics and business met in the conference's security and defence panels. All three aspects, the political, military/strategic and industrial, were covered by top international lecturers. The **MS&D** conference was officially opened by State Secretary Rüdiger Wolf from the German Ministry of Defence. The conference programme was clearly structured in two parallel panels on the two subject areas of security and defence, framed by two plenary sessions. Vice-Admiral (ret.) Lutz Feldt, inspector of the German Navy until 2006 and currently president of the DMI (German Naval Institute), chaired of the entire conference and in particular the SECURITY panel. Chairman of the DEFENCE Panel was Rear Admiral (ret.) Ulrich Otto.



At the accompanying specialist fair, about 60 companies, shipyards and equipment suppliers and institutions presented the latest technologies and products required for securing international shipping routes and ports against pirate and terrorist attacks and in particular for merchant ships and/or naval forces and their deployment in world-wide crisis related areas. Naval industrial companies displayed as concrete examples to the theoretically discussed requirements a wide range of defensive equipment, including sound cannon, helicopters, underwater devices and latest non lethal weapons. The national and international response to the **MS&D**'s invitation was very encouraging.

The organisers welcomed naval delegations from more than 24 countries' Navies around the world with many top naval officers. There also a panel discussion evening for exhibitors and conference participants under the aegis of the BMWi, at which top representatives from politics and business discussed the opportunities and challenges in the maritime security area in a suitably maritime atmosphere in Hamburg's new HafenCity district.

The city of Hamburg and its Exhibition organizers se HMC once again underlined its international importance as Congress experts. With the bi-annual SMM, the world's leading trade fair of the shipbuilding industry Seatrade Europe - Cruise, Ferry Rivercruise & Superyacht Convention for trade visitors, hanseboot as International Boat Show Hamburg and **MS&D**, the HMC offers a comprehensive maritime portfolio that is also a key component of the lively port metropolis of Hamburg with its maritime tradition, various shipyards, shipping lines and multipliers, marine equipment suppliers, shipbuilding research institutions, as the world's largest centre for ship financing and seat of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

HMC's partners Mönch Verlag with NAVAL FORCES, DVV Media Group, the German Engineering Federation (VDMA) and the Association of Marine Engineers, Hamburg (VSIH) as well as the German Shipowners' Association (VDR) all rendered energetic support. All are looking forward to a continuation of the **MS&D** because it has established itself as an attractive forum for constructive dialogues of exhibitors, sponsors, participants and visitors, for good business and for new, promising fruitful contacts. With this premiere congress the organizers have come a decisive step closer towards their aim of making **MS&D** the central discussion and information platform for subjects relevant to security in the maritime sector within the next few years.