

Final meeting of European research project SMARTYards



The SMARTYards Consortium at the final meeting in Flensburg

Foto: CMT

FLensburg | The final meeting of the European project SMARTYards (Developing Smart Technologies for Productivity Improvement of European Small and Medium Sized Shipyards) was held in Flensburg, Germany, on September 13-15, 2016. During the three years of project duration, 17 partners from industry and research aimed to improve the productivity of European small and medium sized shipyards and related partners in the process chain by

- › including them and their regional maritime clusters in a Europe wide network which facilitates information exchange, access to specific technologies and expertise and encourages cooperation with researchers and experts from other shipyards
- › development and demonstration of smart solutions, which are not necessarily high-end technologies, but which are tailored to the specific needs and requirements of small and medium sized companies (smart solutions in the understanding of the project need to be simple, flexible, affordable and robust).

During the project, six prototypes were developed specifically for and with end-user companies:

- › Work Content Estimator to reduce errors and increase the reproducibility and quality of documentation at shipyards not having their own design office
 - › Distributed Design Process to ensure consistent transfer of complex data of specialised 3D software tools
 - › Simulation of shipyards' production processes to aid planning
 - › Micro Panel Line to automate welding processes by using a welding robot that needs no programming (pre-programmed for shipyards needs)
 - › Portable Container Workshop to bring the workshop closer to the ship and increase the productivity of workers
 - › Composite Service Deck to promote composite materials to shipyards, ship owners and suppliers
- The productivity of each prototype was investigated: its impact on environment, health and safety, as well as its opportunities for the shipyard production processes. Moreover, training material for these prototypes was prepared and tested. SMARTYards identified seven Technology Areas that characterise design, production and delivery processes of a shipyard. For

each area, design studies were carried out to identify technological ideas to improve shipyards' business processes and their savings potential. These results were documented in the SMARTYards Solution Catalogue and used to define the above mentioned six prototypes that had successfully been developed. The project's main results are described in a brochure which – together with the Solutions Catalogue – is available for download on the SMARTYards website (www.smartyards-project.eu). For further information about the project please contact the project coordinator Michael Hübler (huebler@cmt-net.org).

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