



Committee for Expertise of Shipbuilding Specifics (CESS) held its annual meeting in Kanazawa, Japan, on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, where the member associations, Japan, Europe, China, Korea and U.S.A., gathered to discuss key issues faced by the global shipbuilding industry. The meeting was hosted by Japan. The delegates reviewed CESS's activities from the past year and the activities expected to come, and exchanged views to seek further cooperation in voicing common opinions on shipbuilding issues, where changes in the business environment were commonly perceived as being tough.

The new aspect brought forward in the CESS activities resulting from the discussion taken by the Top Executive Meeting of JECKU last year has changed the routine of the discussions, starting from the brief review and sharing of the information on the activities of Active Shipbuilding Experts' Federation (ASEF) related to technology, since the activities of CESS were naturally combined with that of ASEF to some considerable extent, and collaboration between ASEF and SEA Europe are ongoing.

The role of CESS remains to act as a platform to share views and develop common positions on important issues, including regulatory matters, in line with the framework agreed in the previous year.

It was noted that ASEF activities have progressed as it was planned in the previous year to reach the third (and final) year of the trial period

and commencing its post-trial activities from the coming Autumn, and that efforts are being promoted to further enhance its performance which the attendants acknowledged.

An assessment on Port State Control (PSC) activities as part of the Paris and Tokyo MOU's and United States Coast Guard during 2017 was made. It was noted that all the regions were steadily carrying out their port state control activities as in previous years which suggests that the quality of the ships are generally improving. The report showed that the shipbuilding quality related deficiencies were kept at low levels, and that ship detentions have remained steady in relation to previous years. The ship types generally having aged ships, such as the reefer fleet and the general cargo fleet have shown above average detention rates as was noted from years before. An improvement of these detentions may be possible as the older ships will be replaced in the future by new ships or, other ship types. Furthermore it was commonly perceived that further benchmarking efforts and assessments on information may be helpful to identify other areas of PSC activities for elimination of sub-standard ships.

The meeting went on to explore areas where the shipbuilding industry can jointly work on evolutionary ideas to positively face the difficulties that needed to be addressed in the severe business environment, and to keep a healthy competitive market in place.

The discussion covered the ways of eliminating sub-standard ships, ways of positively addressing the environmental issues, ways of developing associations with new or different stakeholders in the market, and ways for refining the market analysis, and possible collaboration with ASEF activities.

CESS 2018  
Press Release

CESS will report on its activities at the forthcoming meeting of the JECKU (Shipbuilding) Top Executive Meeting scheduled to take place in Shima City, Japan on 25 October, 2018, where guidance of the CESS activities in the coming years will be sought from the top executives.

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