

NEW VESSEL REINFORCES OIL SPILL RESPONSE IN WESTERN MED



An oil recovery vessel with above average storage capacity

EMSA's network of stand-by oil spill response vessels now includes the *Monte Anaga*. Built in 2010, this tanker boasts a recovered oil storage capacity of 4 096 m³. The vessel belongs to the Spanish shipping company Naviera Altube and is based in Algeciras, Spain. This is a particularly sensitive area given its proximity to major transport routes transiting the Gibraltar Strait. The *Monte Anaga*, which is engaged in bunkering services, will enhance EMSA's oil spill response coverage in the Western Mediterranean Sea.

DEBATE GROWS ON EXPANDING MARES REGIONAL SERVER

At the tenth Mediterranean AIS expert working group on 26 June discussion centred on MARES, the Mediterranean AIS Regional Server, hosted by the Italian Coast Guard in Rome. Since December 2008, MARES has contributed significantly to *SafeSeaNet*, the EU's vessel traffic monitoring and information system. Users of the server – Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Bulgaria and Romania – provide AIS information for their coastline to MARES which stores and forwards it to the central *SafeSeaNet* system



Shaping the future of MARES

operated by EMSA. Currently discussions are focussed on how MARES role can be extended to include the provision of data and services at regional level. The possible areas covered under this new role are fisheries monitoring and vigilance, illegal immigration, and safeguarding and protecting the marine environment. The Italian Coast Guard's General Commandant Vice Admiral Pierluigi Cacioppo has praised EMSA's involvement in the project and believes the capabilities of MARES can be further enhanced. He underlined the Italian Coast Guard's commitment to the development of MARES following "a clear roadmap and political governance".

PLOTTING THE COURSE FOR PORT STATE CONTROL



Learning the ropes - a continuous rather than one-off process

Member State Port State Control coordinators met in Lisbon on 4 and 5 July to decide on the content of future new entrant and refresher seminars that are held by EMSA between four and six times a year. While Member States are responsible for ensuring that their national PSC officers are properly trained and assessed, EMSA supports their activities by developing and implementing a **standardised EU scheme** for PSC training.

FRENCH NAVY CADETS PAY A VISIT TO EMSA



EMSA on the curriculum

A full year of second lieutenants from the French naval academy visited EMSA on 19 July. They arrived in the *BPC Dixmude* and frigate *Georges Leygues* which docked in Lisbon after six months in the Indian Ocean and the Atlantic. The students received a presentation of the Agency and a tour of the **Maritime Support Services operations room**.

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Documents: [Annual Report for 2011](#); [Inventory of EU Member States Oil Pollution Response Vessels 2012](#)

Procurement: [Thetis maintenance and enhancement](#)