

## NEW INSPECTION REGIME FOR PORT STATE CONTROL: 11 MONTHS TO GO

The [New Inspection Regime](#)

(NIR) for Port State Control (PSC) enters into force on 1 January 2011, and preparations at EMSA are under full steam during 2010. The Agency recently



The NIR being explained to EMSA's teams during a January workshop

sent 33,000 copies of a [leaflet](#) on the new PSC reporting obligations to State authorities, which will distribute them to stakeholders who will be affected by the new rules: shipowners, masters, and the agents or operators of ships calling at ports of members of the Paris MoU. The leaflet provides info on [THETIS](#), the new PSC database that is due to be rolled out during 2010, which is populated by EMSA's vessel tracking and monitoring service [SafeSeaNet](#). The leaflet also outlines how the shipping industry must prepare for the new reporting obligations for vessels coming into port in Paris MoU States.

## BIMCO VISITS EMSA

A delegation from the shipping association [BIMCO](#) (the Baltic and International Maritime Council),



**BIMCO**

headed by its Secretary General and CEO Torben Skaanild, visited EMSA in Lisbon on 14 January. EMSA's Executive Director, Willem de Ruiter, briefly introduced the Agency's tasks, with discussions covering topics such as climate change post-Copenhagen, port waste reception facilities, manning issues, traffic monitoring and Port State Control. Particular interest was shown by BIMCO for the New Inspection Regime in the field of Port State Control (see above). BIMCO also presented the latest developments in its [Quality Coastal State](#) project and [Automatic Voyage Risk Assessment](#) tool.

## EMSA COMPILES INVENTORY OF 255 R&D PROJECTS ON OIL POLLUTION

In the past decade, substantial research has been carried out into how authorities can prepare and respond to oil spills. However, with large numbers of projects being run, it is not always easy to get a full picture. So EMSA has just released a new [inventory](#) dealing with Research and Development in the area of marine pollution preparedness, detection and response. The inventory lists 255 ongoing or completed projects from the period 2000 to 2009. 112 of these projects were funded nationally by Spain from 2003 to 2007, related to the *Prestige* oil spill. The Agency believes this inventory will help those working in the fields to cooperate and better disseminate results.

## IRISH COASTGUARD ACTIVATES MAR-ICE

On 12 January, the container ship *BG Dublin* (photo) lost seven containers in a force 10 storm off



Ireland. Debris was washed up on the southern Irish coast, with one container including the hazardous material sodium bromate. On 14 January the Irish Coastguard requested info on the substance through EMSA's [MAR-ICE](#) service. Info was provided within less than an hour, the first use of the MAR-ICE service in a real-life incident.

## EMSA VISITS TRAINING SHIP SAGRÉS

On invitation from the Portuguese Navy, 50 EMSA staff visited the 1937-built sailing boat *Sagrés* on January 15.



Captain Proença Mendes and his crew explained the roles played by the *Sagrés* both as a naval training ship and promotional vehicle for Portuguese foreign policy. The ship left Lisbon on 19 January for a 12-month westbound trip around the world, calling mainly in South America and Eastern Asia.

## TRACKING SHIPS FROM SPACE WITH SAT-AIS

The coverage of coastal AIS networks can be boosted through space technology. 22 January saw EMSA and the European Space Agency (ESA) organise a joint expert meeting on satellite AIS. Delegates from 20 countries, including Canada and



Norway, viewed presentations about proposed satellite AIS capability within [SafeSeaNet](#), and listened to the Norwegian Space Centre present its new Norwegian SAT AIS mission. A very positive outcome led the majority of Member States to support the development of a European satellite AIS system.

### ON THE EMSA WEBSITE

[EMSA Inventory of R&D projects on marine pollution preparedness, detection and response.](#)

[EMSA Pollution Preparedness and Response 2009 Activity Report. Among EMSA jobs, Seconded National Expert - Assessor Of Classification Societies.](#)

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