

EMSA HOSTS EQUASIS MANAGEMENT UNIT

In June 2008, the EQUASIS Supervisory Committee gave EMSA the mandate to take responsibility for hosting the management unit from January 2009. The EQUASIS information service is recognised as an essential tool to help promote quality and safety in maritime transport. The service went live in May 2000. EMSA is a contracting party to the EQUASIS MoU since January 2007. Other contracting parties are the maritime administration of France, Norway, Spain, UK, Australia, Japan (the US Coast Guard and IMO have observer status). EMSA also contributes to the production of the annual EQUASIS statistical publication "[The world merchant fleet](#)".

TUGS SHIPOWNERS VISIT EMSA



From left: Hugo Callens, ETA Secretary General; Willem de Ruyter, EMSA Executive Director; Ms Charo Coll, ETA President; Mr Rui José Souza Cruz, Svitzer Portugal.

The European Tugowners' Association, represented by Charo Coll, President, Hugo Callens, Secretary General, and Rui José Sousa Cruz, General Manager of Svitzer in Portugal, visited EMSA on 22 January. The meeting provided the opportunity to the Executive Director of EMSA, Willem de Ruyter, to briefly introduce the tasks of the Agency. The activities in the field of maritime safety and protection of marine environment, traffic monitoring and pollution preparedness and response were considered of particular interest by the European Tugowners' Association.

EMSA PROVIDES CLEANSEANET SERVICES TO NORWAY

On 13 January, the Russian fishing factory vessel *Topaz A* sunk in the Sea of Barents, about 250 kilometres North of Northern Norway. The Norwegian Coastal Administration immediately requested EMSA to provide

Satellite images of the area using the International charter. The Sea of Barents could in the future be a major waterway for tankers.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENT RECRUITED



EMSA new Heads of Department Antoine Cuvillier (left), Alain Hoffman and Leendert Bal.

Three new Heads of Department have taken up their functions at the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). Antoine Cuvillier, Head of Department A – Corporate Services, has a strong background in Human Resources and Legal Affairs, having worked for the EU institutions for 17 years. He previously held the position of Deputy Executive Director at the European Food Safety Agency. Alain Hoffmann, Head of Department B – Implementation, combines maritime experience as a ship's officer, with a strong background in the decision-making process in maritime rulemaking both at the EU and IMO level. He joins the Agency from a senior management position in the Maritime Affairs Commissariat in Luxembourg. Leendert Bal, Head of Department C – Operations, started working for EMSA in 2004 as a policy adviser, and has been involved within the Agency, as Head of Unit, in developing operational projects such as CleanSeaNet and the EU LRIT Data Centre since their very beginning. He was previously Transport Attaché in Brussels for the Permanent Representation of The Netherlands to the EU.

WORK PROGRAMME 2009 ON LINE. - The [Work Programme 2009](#), a 80 page document, has just been uploaded on the EMSA website.

- Current EMSA open calls to tender can be seen at: [Tenders](#)
- Current EMSA vacancies can be seen at: [Recruitment](#)

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