# NEWSLETTER No.135



QUALITY SHIPPING, SAFER SEAS, CLEANER OCEANS

**JUNE 2016** 

### NEW SATELLITES EXPAND EMSA'S EARTH OBSERVATION CAPACITIES

EMSA's Earth Observation capacities have been strengthened considerably by the integration of new satellites into the existing portfolio. The first TerraSAR-X operational services for CleanSeaNet oil spill monitoring service have been planned: 16 synthetic aperture radar (SAR) segments will be delivered in June. The X-band based technology on board the satellite aids in vessel detection, while the wide-area images, increased coverage, and regular revisit times increase the chances of detecting oil spills and other substances on the sea surface. The first optical images from the Deimos-2 satellite under a framework contract with Airbus were also delivered in May. EMSA can now offer a greater range of high resolution optical images, with improved delivery times. The new satellite products support not only CleanSeaNet users for environmental monitoring, but all authorised users of EMSA's Earth Observation data from a range of sectors such as traffic monitoring, search and rescue, safety, fisheries, customs, and law enforcement.



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### FINNISH CITY OF TURKU HOSTS EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY 2016

This year's European Maritime Day held in Turku on 18–19 May focused on the theme of "Investing in competitive blue growth – smart and sustainable solutions". Some 1200 participants attended the event, now in its ninth edition. During the two-day conference, some twenty workshops and five thematic sessions looked at a wide range of topics including smart specialisation and sustainable solutions for blue growth, the potential and challenges of sectors such as cruise tourism and ocean energy, clean shipping and environmental technologies, maritime spatial planning and multiple uses of space, and the importance of digitalisation and connectivity. The conference provided a strong input to shaping future policies and the practical steps needed to drive change in the blue economy and the wider integrated maritime policy agenda.



## EMSA & FRONTEX EXTEND COOPERATION FOR ANOTHER THREE YEARS

EMSA and the EU's border agency Frontex have signed a new interagency agreement that will extend their cooperation for another three years. The two agencies will continue to work together in the areas of border surveillance, interception of vessels suspected of engaging in criminal activities and cross border crime and support for search and rescue at sea. EMSA Executive Director Markku Mylly and Frontex Executive Director Fabrice Leggeri took part in the official signing ceremony on 25 May at the Frontex headquarters in Warsaw. The previous Service Level Agreement between Frontex and EMSA was in force for three years before it expired in April. EMSA assists Frontex in providing several services, including tracking of vessels suspected to be engaged in criminal activities and people smuggling and monitoring of suspicious activities. By combining skills, experience and resources, EMSA and Frontex can build on synergies to improve the quality of services developed. Cooperation also brings cost savings by avoiding duplication of effort and overlapping infrastructures.



#### ONGOING SUPPORT FOR MEMBER STATES AS THEY IMPLEMENT EU SULPHUR RULES

EMSA held its fifth training session on the enforcement of the EU sulphur rules on 31 May-1 June. Participants from all EU member states were trained in the provisions of these rules, the inspection of ships with and without emission abatement methods, sampling from the fuel oil service system and in the supporting database THETIS-EU. In addition to going through real case scenarios, a visit on board the cruise ship Queen Victoria was also part of the training to provide sulphur



inspectors with hands on experience of the on board fuel management procedures and the exhaust gas cleaning system. Since the entry into force of the stricter sulphur limits, EMSA has trained close to 150 sulphur inspectors in the region.

### emsa.europa.eu

**CAREERS:** SNE Project Officer for Integrated Maritime Data (deadline: 30/6/2016); Protect Officer for Equasis (deadline: 27/6/2016); Reserve list for a Human Resources Officer (deadline: 20/5/2016)

**PROCUREMENT:** Contracts for Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) services in the maritime environment (deadline: 24/6/2016); Service contracts for stand-by oil spill recovery vessels (deadline: 22/6/2016); Construction works in EMSA's premises (deadline: 14/6/2016)