

Europort Istanbul almost booked out

Organized by NTSR, 11th International Maritime Exhibition looks set to fill all booths as 90 percent of reservations have been reported booked. The fair this year is expected to attract 600 exhibitors from 32 countries, while estimated attendance surpasses 11 thousand people.

Europort Istanbul International Maritime Exhibition invites international

maritime players to Istanbul for the 11th time. The fair is organized by NTSR in an exclusive cooperation with the Turkish Chamber and will be held at between 23-26 March 2011 at Istanbul Expo Centre. The premises are also at proximity to Tuzla area, a choice which will surely increase the number of visitors from Turkey's locus of shipbuilding.

Held almost precisely two years ago between 25-28 March 2009, the 10th Europort Istanbul attracted 217 exhibitors representing 610 brands from 34 countries and 7,869 visitors from 48 countries. Netherlands, United Kingdom, Spain, Germany and Greece topped visitors list, followed by visitors from Bulgaria, France, Japan, Belgium, Italy and Scandinavian countries. Mr. Jos van der Vegt, CEO of Ahoy Rotterdam

said in a press release that "what once started as 'Exposhipping', a mainly national Turkish exhibition, has now developed into a truly international maritime trade fair in Turkey". Mr. van der Vegt seems to expect further increase in number of attendants compared to previous fair as he stated that 10th fair had surpassed the 9th

one by 40 percent. His Turkish counterpart in the organisation, NTSR General Manager Mr. Serkan

Tigilgolu, on the other hand, emphasized that Europort Istanbul offers "a gateway to new market opportunities for the participating companies".

Europort and Mare Forum join forces

Meanwhile, it has been announced that this year the two maritime event organisers Europort Istanbul and Mare Forum Istanbul are to join forces and merge the two events into one major fair taking place from 22 to 26 March 2011. Mare Forum Istanbul will reportedly be held one day prior to Europort Istanbul, allowing exhibitors and visitors of Europort to also attend the conference. Likewise, Mare Forum participants will have the opportunity to visit the exhibition.

**EUROPORT
ISTANBUL
23 - 26 MARCH 2011**