

Shipping exhibition from May 5

Staff Reporter

THE global shipping industry will display its products at the 3rd Ship and Port Euro port Maritime 2008 - an international ship building, port and marine technology exhibition. The exhibition runs from May 5 to 7th at the new Qatar International Exhibition Centre (QIEC).

The three-day event is being organised under the patronage of Minister of State HE Sheikh Hamad bin Suhaim al-Thani.

The Central Dredging Association (CEDA) will also hold its first ever conference in an Asian country, here in Doha.

The exhibition is being hosted by Al Hajer Information and Services, Dubai and Ahoy Rotterdam. The main sponsors are Customs and Ports General Authority and Qatar Navigation.

Ahoy exhibition manager Peter Niemantsvordriet said his



Organisers of Maritime 2008 announcing details of the event yesterday.

company had organised events of even greater magnitude at its facility in Rotterdam.

He said, Europort Maritime, one of his company's prized firms had become a benchmark of specialised knowledge and technology in the field of maritime and preventive maintenance.

Rayond Siliakos, another official of the company said the shipping industry in the Middle East was bound to grow at an

enormous pace in the next decade and the expected growth would have few parallels elsewhere.

"This is mainly because the Middle East is primarily a buying region in view of its growing requirements in LNG and shipping industry," he said.

The regional shipping industry is expected to attract investments worth over \$100bn. This includes investment in shipyards, dredging equipment and

LNG carriers, he said.

In Qatar alone, \$1bn in investments are expected annually in the shipping industry, said Siliakos.

Qatar International Exhibition Centre (QIEC) official Lahadn al-Mohannadi, Al Fajer Alulla managing director Ibrahim al-Naema, Al Fajer Information and services general manager Satish Khanna and Ahoy exhibition manager Majed Z'Weihan were present.