

The Peninsula BUSINESS

Doha to host Ship & Port + Europort Maritime Expo '08

DOHA - Al Fajer and Ahoy Rotterdam have jointly announced their decision to host the third edition of Ship & Port + Europort Maritime Expo 2008 in Doha.

Billed as the region's largest maritime expo, the three-day event is slated to be opened at the brand new Qatar International Exhibition Center (QIEC) on May 5.

Al Fajer Information and Services is a leading organiser of industry expositions in the Middle East, Africa and India. Ahoy Rotterdam is a property of Europort Maritime, a global name in the field of maritime design and preventive maintenance.

Terming the event as a 'One stop platform for trade and technology seekers' Europort Maritime Exhibition Manager Peter Niemantsverdriet said the show would offer an excellent opportunity to encourage the growth of the maritime industry in Qatar and the Middle East region, where major multi-billion dollar maritime projects are underway.

"Over 150 regional and international exhibitors from 25 countries will showcase their products in the exhibition. Germany, China, Holland, Finland, Korea and Romania will have their country pavilions. A wide array of high tech products and latest developments in the ship building industry will be the highlight of the event", Niemantsverdriet said.

The exhibitors and visitors at the Ship & Port + Europort Maritime have been carefully drawn out logically from the industry vertical, including ship building, port authorities and operators, LNG and oil professionals, ship owners, ship suppliers and distributors, shipping agents, logistics companies, freight forwarders, infrastructure developers and consultants, he said.

Satish Khanna, General Manager, Al Fajer Information and Services said: "Qatar is a key hub for shipping, port and maritime industry. It is an ideal ground to host an international

maritime expo. The previous edition of the expo had witnessed tremendous success in Qatar".

The expo will also be coincided with the Asian conference of Central Dredging Association (CEDA). The CEDA dredging conference will be addressed by industry experts and the movers and shakers in the related sectors, Khanna added.

Raymond Siliakus of Europort Maritime said over 250 delegates from all over the world will turn up to the event. The event will also be marked by an exclusive exhibition on dredging.

The Qatar Port and Customs General Authority is the principal sponsor of the international expo. Qatar Navigation and Radio Holland are the co-sponsors.

Ibrahim Al Naimi, chairman, Al Fajer Al Ulla, Majedz Jaweighan, General Manager, Al Fajer A and Lehdan Al Mohannadi (QIEC) were also present.

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Lehdan Al Mohannadi (right) addressing the media as (from left) Raymond Siliakus, Peter Niemantsverdriet, Satish Khanna, Ibrahim Al Naimi and Majedz Jaweighan look on. (SHAIVAL DALAL)