The Marine Technology Liguria District, an opportunity for Collaboration and Training

AB: This work focuses on the newly born DLTM, namely the Distretto Ligure delle Tecnologie Marine, based in La Spezia, Liguria Region (IT). The main involved partners are: Ministries, Regione Liguria Council, Spedia SpA Company, Industries, SMEs (SMBs), Universities and National Research Institutes. The DLTM has been created as an answer to the local versus global needs of marine products innovation, technology, and science. In order to provide, both the local and international community, effective solutions the DLTM aims to: - promote Innovation and pre-competitiveness of activities related to industrial research; - enhance the value and visibility of excellence areas existing in the Ligurian region (in the big enterprises as well as in SMEs) concerning marine technology; - enhance the value of academic activities focusing their R&D on industrial products/processes, assuring, evaluating and preventing environmental sustainability also in case of extreme events; - harmonize/make sustainable the economy and the society promoting scientific innovation and technological development, by means of Universities, Public and Private Research Institutes (at regional, national and EU level); - help the exchange of ideas and realization of projects aimed at developing the District objectives; - increase the dissemination and valorisation of District results and achievements, build capacity in the sectors of interest to the District. The DLTM is characterized by two main macro-themes. The first concerns infrastructures, materials and processes, while the second is committed to eco-compatible
solutions for harbours, ships and coastal scenarios, security and control management of human activities, risky operations and extreme natural events. The former macro-theme is expected to provide the community with innovative solutions, technologies, materials, processes applied to marine sectors, shipyard and related subsystems and components, in a wide sense such as leisure, commercial, navy, submarine, offshore. The social and strategic relevance of the area implies a particular attention to natural disasters, due to possible industrial plants failure and natural causes (i.e. floods), and human activities (hazardous goods haulage or terrorism). The latter macro-theme deals with this effort, providing the community with a framework for sharing experiences and skills, devoted to the management of aforementioned issues. Integrated, high efficiency plans and management systems will spring out of the DLTM community for immediate issues resolution, with effects on the life-style and productivity. The DLTM will set up and finance specific University courses, second level masters and doctorate together with the creation and/or the best use of the laboratories: public and private.

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MN: 2008 Joint Assembly