



NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS
SCHOOL OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE AND MARINE ENGINEERING
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Opening statement in the International Workshop on marine oil pollution control

Dear Colleagues, Madams and Sirs,

During the last decades, pollution evolved to a major problem affecting the policy of both the maritime authorities and classification societies and shipping companies. The main concern of the former is reflected in issuing strict rules and regulations for the design and construction of oil carriers, which can afford an accident without causing oil pollution at sea. These led shipping companies to replace their fleet of tankers with modern and more sophisticated ones with double skin and other oil pollution prevention devices. OPA 90 was the major regulation and it proved to be decisive in the qualitative change in the tankers.

However, nowadays, the assessment of oil spill potential can be more rationally carried out using risk-based analysis. On the basis of a quantitative evaluation of oil pollution risk the extent of the counter-pollution means decided would reflect more reliable the risk for oil pollution. The POP & C Project aims toward this goal.

On the other hand, and in parallel with developing pollution-resisting oil carriers, efficient methods and systems have to be devised that will control ail oil spill in the undesirable situation, of its presence. The EU_MOP and OSH Projects, aim both to this objective.

As the current chairman of the Greek Section of SNAME, a Society based in the States with 9000 members all over the world, I would like to congratulate the EC for its continuing efforts towards the prevention and management of oil pollution, directly affecting the highly populated European coastline. All parties involved in waterborne transportation, and especially we naval architects and marine engineers expect with high interest the results of all three projects, and wish that they will have a significant contribution to the common goals.

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