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## Kick-Off Meeting for Research Project "SAFEDOR"

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- 12 million EUR sponsorship by the EU
- More than 50 partners from the European maritime industry
- More than 100 participants
- Project management by Germanischer Lloyd

A kick-off meeting at the headquarters of Germanischer Lloyd today marks the beginning of the research project SAFEDOR on risk-based ship design and approval. The research project is funded with 12 million Euro provided by the European Union. A total of 53 project partners from all sectors of the maritime industry in Europe are participating in the project. The Kick-Off meeting has attracted more than 100 participants, including delegates from classification companies, shipowners, yards, component makers, flag states and universities to Hamburg.

During this 2-days event, which was dominated by intensive group work and discussions within the individual work packages, the first steps were made towards the concrete individual goals.

Along with the technical work, an Advisory Committee was established under the participations of CESA, EMEC, IMO and VDR.

In risk-based ship design, safety levels are considered as objectives of the design process from the outset, rather than being treated as a constraint, as is the case using today's conventional ship design methods and prescriptive rules. The new approach provides scope for novel and inventive design solutions and, therefore, encourages innovation.

SAFEDOR recognises the key role played by European companies in the design, construction and operation of modern, seagoing vessels. European expertise and involvement are particularly strong for those sophisticated ship types where safety is afforded the highest priority, e.g. roll-on/roll-off passenger ships, cruise ships, gas tankers and container ships. While the work of the EU-funded project is aimed at achieving advances in maritime safety that will benefit the international shipping community, it is also envisaged that the competitiveness of European companies will be enhanced.