



Based at INFOFISH, Kuala Lumpur, and set up with the assistance of FAO, the Advisory Service for Fishing Technology for the Asia/Pacific strives to facilitate dissemination of information on fishing technology and equipment for the industry and research/training institutions as well as to promote links between research institutions, administration and industry. Since 1992, INFOFISH has issued a quarterly newsletter collating global fisheries news and new items relating to fishing technology and fish harvesting.

Information on fishing technology and equipment also appears in *INFOFISH International*, a bi-monthly magazine of which the forthcoming issue will include an article on a "*Impending EC regulation on IUU fishing looms large over industry*". A supplementary section on "Industry Notes" provides information on latest developments in the global fisheries scene. New equipment and innovations are also featured. Comments and contributions are welcome, so are requests/recommendations for inclusion in the mailing list.

Index of contents

Argentina 21	Omega-3 14
Australia 2	Organic fish 20
Buyers guide 23	Pakistan 13
Canada 25	Philippine 27
Construction vessels 22	Sea light 18
Eco-labelling 24	South Africa 9
Europe 30	Spain 29
HongKong 4	Sri Lanka 6,11
Iceland 3	Sustainable certification 11
Longline fishing 5	Taiwan 26
Malaysia 7	Tuna 8,9,11,24
New Zealand 12	Wireless net sounder 17

If you are in the tuna business - here is an event not to be missed!

**TUNA 2010 BANGKOK
11TH INFOFISH WORLD TUNA TRADE CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION**

20 -22 May, 20100

Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre
at CentralWorld, Bangkok, Thailand

The world's largest tuna industry gathering where industry leaders and stakeholders from all over the world meet.

The series of world tuna trade conferences, organized by INFOFISH, has always been the best forum of the latest trends and developments, exchange views and make business deals with partners from all over the world.

TUNA 2010 will take a close look at the current issues and challenges facing the global tuna industry. The conference will be addressed by nearly 40 renowned speakers.

Please contact for further details.

Editor's Note

All these years, the Fishing Technology Digest has come to you on a complimentary basis. Rising production costs have, however, compelled us to switch to a new format and adopt alternative printing arrangements. We hope you will understand our predicament and bear with us. Despite the constraints, there will be no sacrifice on quality and content. Needless to say, in the present scenario we would welcome any assistance from companies or organisations through full or partial sponsorship of the Digest to ensure its uninterrupted production.

1 *FAO issues plan to combat IUU*

Members of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reached an international agreement to implement "port state measures" to combat illegal fishing.

The final text of a new treaty that aims to close fishing ports to vessels involved in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing has been agreed upon by a group of 91 countries during talks brokered by FAO, the U.N. agency announced.

The "Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing" will be the first ever global treaty focused specifically on the problem of IUU fishing. It is hoped the agreement will help block IUU-caught fish from entering international markets, removing an important incentive for some fishermen to engage in illicit fishing.

"By frustrating responsible management, IUU fishing damages the productivity of fisheries — or leads to their collapse. That's a serious problem for the people who depend on them for food and income," said Ichiro Nomura, FAO's assistant director general for fisheries and aquaculture.

"This treaty represents a real, palpable advance in the ongoing effort to stamp it out."

In the agreement, countries agree to take a number of steps to harden their ports against IUU fishers. Key points of the treaty include:

- Foreign fishing vessels wishing to dock will be required to request permission from specially designated ports ahead of time, transmitting information on their activities and the fish they have on board — this will give authorities an opportunity to spot red flags in advance.
- The treaty commits countries to regular inspections and outlines a set of standards that will be used during those inspections. Reviews of ship papers, surveys of fishing gear, examining catches and checking a ship's records can often reveal if it has engaged in IUU fishing.
- Signatories must ensure ports and inspectors are adequately equipped and trained.
- When a vessel is denied access, port states must communicate information publicly and national authorities from the country whose flag the vessel is flying must take followup action.
- The treaty calls for the creation of information-sharing networks to let countries share details on IUU-associated vessels, and contains provisions intended to assist resource-strapped developing countries meet their treaty obligations.

These measures apply to foreign fishing vessels not flying the flag of port states; however countries can apply them to their own fishing fleets as well should they choose.

The plan will be reviewed by FAO's Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters at its next meeting on Sept. 23-25. From there, it will go to FAO's council and the FAO conference in November for final review and formal adoption.

Intrafish Media, September 02, 2009

2 *Fishery agreement signed with Australia*

Indonesia and Australia signed a memorandum of understanding on maritime and fishery issues at Nusa Dua, Bali, recently covering areas such as illegal fishing, handling, fishery management, partnership and bilateral cooperation and the MoU Box.

The term "MoU Box", used since 1974, refers to a sea area located south of a group of isles around Dana and Rote islands in the Indonesian province of East Nusa Tenggara that borders with Australia's sea territory. The document was signed by Suseno Sukoyono, an expert staff of the Indonesian ministry of fishery and marine resources, and Craig Burns, executive manager of the Australian department of agriculture, fishery and forestry.

Sukoyono said it has improved both countries' understanding on common capacity building, with regard to optimising marine potential, and the number of illegal fishing cases has dropped from year to year. In the case of traditional fishing at the sea border, he said, Australia has been willing to understand that it is part of social and cultural traditions of the Indonesian coastal communities.

Craig Burns, meanwhile, said progress has been made over the management and extension of assistance with regard to implementing the agreement. As an example, with reference to the MoU Box, the management of traditional fishing would be done only after joint research and, monitoring will also be done jointly," he said.

Infish International 4/2009

3 *Fishermen urge government to protect marine industry*

The Irish Fishermen's Organisation (IFO) has called on the government to protect its marine industry by labelling seafood caught in its waters as "Irish-caught." IFO representative Caitlin Ui Aodha, one of the country's first female skippers said Irish consumers have a right to choose and buy Irish fish and they would be glad to purchase Irish fish if properly labeled as such. She stressed that it is time for some administrative sanctions, as favoured by the EU, to be initiated by the government. Most fish landed in La Coruna in Spain is taken from Irish waters with little or no inspection taking place and EU member states have taken up to €200 (US\$ 270 million) worth of fish from Irish waters since its accession, said Ui Aodha. She further added that Ireland gets only 4% of Europe's quota in Irish waters but countries like France are allowed a quota of six to seven times that amount.

INFOFISH International 4/2009

4 *Hong Kong considers ban on fishing trawlers*

Hong Kong is considering banning fishing trawlers in its waters to save fish stocks, a report said Thursday. The drastic proposal comes as annual catches were estimated to be 30 percent above sustainable levels, the South China Morning Post said, citing a consultation paper from the Food and Health bureau.

"Most Hong Kong waters are fish spawning and nursery grounds," said the consultation document, which will be released by the bureau's committee on sustainable fisheries next week.

"The indiscriminate trawling activity will lead to catches of infant fish that lack... economic value and seriously disrupt reproduction capacity." Under the proposals, the government could buy out some of the 550

fishing trawlers operating in Hong Kong waters. Environmental groups have long said that of all methods used, trawling has the most damaging effect on the seabed and fish stocks.

The document said annual production of fish in local waters has reached 26,700 mt, 30 percent above the maximum sustainable yield set by a recent study on sustainable fishing, the Post said.

The proposal is likely to draw opposition from the beleaguered fishing industry, which provides 12,000 jobs in Hong Kong.

Fishermen have been plagued by a string of problems including marine pollution from China, soaring oil prices, ageing operators, and mounting calls to protect international fish stocks.

Financial help and retraining could be offered to the affected fishermen, with the hope that they could turn to the leisure fishing business or fish farming, the report said.

Other suggestions in the paper included limiting new entrants and capping the number of fishing vessels, the English-language newspaper reported.

A spokesman for the department said the report was not yet available to the public.

ICSF 10 September 2009

5 Ruling on longline fishing aids turtles

When a United States federal panel that regulates fishing in the Gulf of Mexico voted last week to limit the use of longlines to catch grouper because the lines can snag and drown threatened loggerhead sea turtles, no one was completely satisfied with the decision.

But some people close to the issue say the dissatisfaction is a positive sign, an indicator of the growing efforts among fishermen, conservationists and regulators to seek consensus and abandon the rancor that for decades has marked their interactions.

"Nobody got exactly what they wanted," said Roy Crabtree, Southeast regional administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which oversees the panel, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. "But everyone felt we had come up with a reasonable compromise."

Longlines are miles of metal cable strung with thousands of baited hooks, which fishermen deploy along the ocean bottom, including on coral reefs and rocky "hardbottoms" where red and black grouper forage. Loggerhead sea turtles forage there, too, and if they are snagged on the hooks, they may drown before the lines are hauled back to the surface.

The council, which regulates fishing in federal waters from Texas to the west coast of Florida, voted to close some areas to longlining, and only about half of the approximately 125 boats now using the gear will be allowed to continue. Fishermen will be allowed to catch grouper using vertical lines, which are dropped overboard.

In general, experts say, fishermen bring in bigger catches using longline gear, and some add that it is somewhat easier to use at sea.

Glen Brooks, president of the Gulf Fishermen's Association and a

participant in the rule making, said the process was "stressful." But, Mr. Brooks said, "years ago the commercial fishermen did not talk to the environmentalists, we did not talk to the recreational fishermen and the council members kind of looked down on us. Now we have a pretty good relationship with the environmental groups, the recreational sectors, and we have a pretty good rapport with the council members."

Dave Allison, who manages turtle conservation efforts for Oceana, an environmental group that also participated in the rule making, called the new ruling "probably the best that the sea turtles could have hoped for from an organization called the fishery management council." But "it's a good start," Mr. Allison said. According to Dr. Crabtree, recent research suggests that the lines snag far more loggerhead sea turtles than had been thought, perhaps 600 a year, and that most of them die. Conservationists say longline gear also damages corals and other important habitat on the sea bottom, threatening both the turtles and the fish.

ICSF 7 September 2009

6 Government to develop fisheries in liberated areas

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Sri Lanka, Felix Perera, said that the Government is now faced with a new challenge to develop the fisheries sector in the newly liberated northern and eastern coastal areas. The country's marine fisheries industry was adversely affected for three decades by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which obstructed fishing activities in two-thirds of the coastal belt.

Perera said that a ten-year development plan for the Sri Lanka fisheries sector, formulated by the ministry, has focused mainly on enhancement of fishery production in terms of quality and quantity, reducing postharvest losses and increasing deep sea and offshore fishery resources, while conserving coastal ecosystems to ensure sustainable fishery resource management. He said that a number of development projects and programmes have been initiated, especially in infrastructure development, capacity enhancement and aquaculture development.

INFOFISH International 5/2009

7 Task force to tackle foreign fishermen problem

The Malaysian State of Sarawak will soon form a special task force to deal with problems caused by foreign fishermen in Tanjung Manis in the Sarikei Division. The formation of the task force was a result of a recent discussion held between the police, the State internal security and other departments in Kuching, Sarawak. Many reports have been received by the police about the socially unacceptable behaviour of the fishermen, mainly from Thailand and Myanmar.

"They got involved in fighting, even killings, and the bodies of the victims were allegedly thrown into the river and sea. From January last year to 28 April this year the police have fished out 18 bodies from the Rajang River and the South China Sea," said State Police Commissioner, Datuk Mohamad Salleh. He urged all relevant departments like the Immigration, Royal Customs, the Fisheries and the Health Departments to work closely to tackle any problem. "The police will be most happy to provide the manpower should there be a need for a joint operation," he said.

INFOFISH International 5/2009

8 Tuna RFMOs to focus on bycatch

More than 50 member governments of the five regional tuna fisheries management organisation (RFMOs) agreed to convene workshops on excess capacity, bycatch and other pressing matters.

As well as capacity issues, the workshops will focus on preventing illegal fishing and bycatch of turtles, sharks, juvenile tuna and other marine life, it was agreed at a meeting in San Sebastian, Spain.

The five tuna related RFMOs are the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

"Governments have set the right agenda at this meeting but workshops are not going to bring tuna back from the brink." said Miguel Jorge, Marine Director at World Wildlife Fund (WWF). "Talk is cheap, what we need is action right away."

"It's been yet another week of inaction," said Lagi Toribau, Greenpeace Australia Pacific Oceans campaigner.

"The RFMOs acknowledge that tuna stocks are in deep trouble. They acknowledge that there are simply too many fishing vessels operating around the world," said Toribau.

IntraFish Media, July 08, 2009

9 Southern Africa pole and line tuna fishery goes Friend of the Sea.

Friend of the Sea announces approval of the Global Fish pole and line fishery targeting mainly albacore but also skipjack and yellowfin tuna in the South East Atlantic. Global Fish Pty Ltd has its head office in Cape Town and is the largest trader of Tuna in Africa with a volume of 10,000 mt. The company has approximately 45 independently owned South African and Namibian registered pole and line, freezer and ice fishing vessels. Depending on the water temperature the local season can start from September/October and ends around June/July. The fishing grounds the fleet operates in are Cape Town, Hout Bay, Namibia and Angola.

Southern Atlantic Albacore and Atlantic Yellowfin fishing mortalities are well within maximum sustainable yield and Global Fish fleet is compliant with recent years' TACs and recommendations. Spawning biomass estimates for Albacore and Yellowfin are very close (90 to 110%) to the level at MSY. Skipjack tuna biomass and fishing mortality, according to the 2008 stock assessment, are both within MSY levels.

The pole and line fishing method has negligible bycatch (Global Fish is also Dolphin-Safe approved by the Earth Island Institute). Only recently yellowtail is caught in compliance with permit conditions. If any sharks is caught accidentally, it is either cut loose (if too big to bring on board) or it is brought on board, the hook extracted and released. Fishermen attended a course on how to handle wildlife/birds on the vessels. According to the FAO database, pole and line for tuna generates less than 1% discards and Global Fish has implemented a policy of no

discard at sea, with everything caught being recorded on logbook.

Global Fish skippers are aware of protected areas and the fact that they are not allowed to fish in these areas. Marine conservation awareness information is disseminated through the Fresh Tuna Exporters Association and the Marine and Coastal Management division. All relevant legislation included in permit conditions is issued annually to each vessel, including minimum distance from the coast. All vessels use VMS system and permit conditions stipulate when they need to switch it on.

The onsite Friend of the Sea audit run by an international certification body has provided confirmation of sustainability and traceability of Global Fish tuna. Following the auditor recommendations, the company has also drafted appropriate principles and criteria to further regulate the already implemented social accountability and energy and waste management.

"The Friend of the Sea audit has been a very important and useful experience for Global Fish" comments Mr Simon Williams. "We are glad our fleet has obtained an approval which was denied to other high impact South African fisheries. This is an important reward to our conservation efforts and lower impact fishing method."

The Friend of the Sea project expands further within Africa and among the main tuna producers worldwide. The approved South African pole and line fleet joins a number of pole and line and hand line tuna fisheries worldwide having obtained Friend of the Sea approval. "Friend of the Sea and Dolphin-Safe are the most widespread and reliable standards for tuna sustainability worldwide" concludes Paolo Bray – Director of Friend of the Sea and European Coordinator of the Earth Island Institute Dolphin-Safe project.

Friend of the Sea, August 21, 2009

10 UN announces guidelines to protect fragile sea species

After two years of consultations with concerned countries, the United Nations announced new international guidelines to limit the impact of fishing on fragile sea species.

The guidelines details steps for improving information on the location and status of vulnerable marine ecosystems and deep sea fisheries. Few countries have so far developed policies and plans specifically related to managing deep sea fishing, even in their own waters, according to U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The FAO said managing deep sea fisheries in high seas areas outside of countries' exclusive economic zones has always been a difficult task since it requires multilateral solutions involving nations whose vessels are engaged in deep sea fisheries as well as other concerned countries.

Ichiro Nomura, Assistant Director General of FAO's Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture said that until recently, there was no international framework for tackling this issue.

Stating that the new guidelines represent one of the few practical instruments of this nature, he said it represents a breakthrough in that they address both environmental and fisheries management concerns in an integrated manner.

Stressing that all fishing activities in deep sea areas should be "rigorously managed," the guidelines recommend fishing nations assess the deep sea fishing being undertaken by their fleets to determine if any significant adverse impacts are involved, and if there are adverse impacts, the fishing activity should stop.

They also recommend measures that can be taken to identify and protect vulnerable ecosystems and provide guidance on the sustainable use of marine living resources in deep-sea areas.

ICSF 10 September, 2009

11 Main UK tuna supplier from Sri Lanka certified sustainable

Friend of the Sea makes one more important step into the UK and European market as Tuna Retail Sales – a main supplier of tuna from the artisanal vessels of Sri Lanka - obtains certification.

The fishery assessed is composed of vessels up to 18 meters in length, deploying an average of 500 hooks per line. These small vessels "multi hook short-lines" fish at depths up to 150 meters. Discards are less than 1% as the fishery is much more selective than alternative gillnets and the catch is loaded onboard alive. Tuna catches represent up to 90 percent of total catch, depending on the fishing season. The rest of the catches comprise mainly of swordfish.

An onsite audit by an international independent certification body was run at the fishery, verifying the fishing method, discards composition, compliance with national regulation and traceability up to the finished product. All future companies' procurements will be monitored for traceability by the local Friend of the Sea monitor.

"Our company has always been sourcing only from the local artisanal vessels as we are aware of the sustainability of this fishing method." explains Mr Weerawardena, MD of Tuna Retail Sales "The Friend of the Sea certification will further highlight the environmental value of our tuna origin"

Friend of the Sea Newsletter, 4 August, 2009

12 New Zealand : Electronic catch reporting could save fishermen money

The introduction of a new electronic catch reporting system will save the industry plenty of time and money, according to New Zealand's Fisheries Minister Phil Heatley.

The change, which comes into effect on October 1, will allow the fishing industry to use computer technology to report their catch directly to the government electronically. "In these tight economic times, it's crucial that while we work towards more sustainable fisheries we also get more efficient and look at ways to cut costs and increase flexibility," Mr Heatley said.

All commercial fishermen are legally required to report the fish they catch to the government. This catch reporting provides important information for monitoring catch levels and the health of fish stocks as well as ensuring that fishermen do not exceed their catch entitlements

under the Quota Management System.

Currently each of the 170,000 catch reports completed each year must be filled out by hand on paper forms, mailed in, manually data entered and then scanned for filing.

Around 27,000 forms a year have to be returned and resubmitted due to errors and problems in interpreting handwriting. "This is a laborious, manual process that costs the fishing industry over \$2 million a year in levies to administer. These changes should reduce the industry's annual costs significantly," Mr Heatley said.

New rules will allow fishermen to use computerised reporting systems that will capture catch information and electronically report accurate data directly to Fish Serve (a fishing industry owned company that administers the catch reporting regime under contract to the Ministry of Fisheries).

Industry leaders have proposed this system for many years. After the completion of a pilot scheme, scheduled to start in early 2010, electronic reporting will be rolled out on all foreign charter fishing vessels and New Zealand fishing vessels fishing on the high seas. The system will then be available to all fishermen who wish to use it.

"Electronic catch reporting will make better use of the technology we have and will bring significant cost savings to the industry and government", Mr Heatley said. "This is good news for the fishing industry and good news for Government. I am very pleased to see the new system being developed."

ICSF 15 September, 2009

13 Pakistan: Chief Minister Sindh presides meeting regarding Fisheries and Aquaculture strategy.

A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister of Sindh Syed Qaim Ali Shah in Chief Minister's House regarding to the launching of Fisheries and aquaculture Strategy which was attended by the Minister Fisheries Sindh Zahid Ali Bhurgri, Nazar Hussain Mahar, Additional Development (Dev) P & D, Department, Government of Sindh, Arthur Bayhan, C.E.O, CSF, Secretary Fisheries, Sindh, Meer Muhammad Parhyar, Director, Karachi fish Harbor Authority.

The strategy was spelt out by Arthur Bayhan, Chief Executive Officer of Competitiveness Support Fund for developing fisheries sector in line with National Policy and strategy for fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Pakistan (NPF) produced by federal government and merges them with various strategic goals identified by the Sindh Government through the fisheries department and other bodies in Sindh.

The strategy includes an action plan for fish quality and value adding at Karachi fisheries Harbor, a road map restructuring and management and operation of the Karachi Fish Harbor.

Chief Minister appreciated the strategy prepared by the Competitiveness Support Fund and said that issue raised regarding out sourcing of marketing strategy of Karachi Fish Harbor will be looked into properly.

Mazhur, August 20, 2009

RESEARCH

14 Doctor says kids need fish, omega-3s

In his new book, Dr. William Sears said consuming omega-3s found in seafood helps deter the childhood attention/behavior problems he terms "nutritional deficit disorder."

Sears coined the term "nutritional deficit disorder" (NDD) to describe diet-related sleep, attention, and behavior problems in children. He said he believes simple changes in diet can help prevent or ameliorate common attention/behavior disorders, without resorting to drugs.

"Children are getting sicker, sadder and fatter, and nutritional deficit disorder is responsible," Sears says in "The NDD book."

IntraFish Media, July 08, 2009

15 Study: fish can't stave off heart failure

Eating fish, shown in previous studies to promote heart health, failed to stave off cardiac failure in a study by researchers.

The analysis, which started in 1990 and involved 5,299 men and women over the age of 55 living in a Rotterdam suburb, found no difference in the risk of developing heart failure between those who ate fish and those who didn't, according to a press release posted on the AlphaGalileo science website.

The study will be published in the European Journal of Heart Failure, the released said.

IntraFish Media, September 30, 2009

16 On-board cameras proved to cut overfishing, discards

A recently finished experiment concluded on-board cameras can be

used as a management tool to reduce discards and overfishing.

DTU Aqua, Denmark's National Institute of Aquatic Resources, tested electronic monitoring for the first time in Europe on six Danish vessels in trials running from September 2008 through July.

"Preliminary analysis shows that the vessels which participated in the project discarded fewer fish than other vessels. The project has shown that the technique can work under Danish conditions and with several types of Danish vessels. Data from cameras and sensors on the GPS and hydraulics allows high accuracy to determine where and when a fishery has taken place and how big catch and discards have been," said Jorgen Dalskov, project manager for DTU Aqua.

DTU Aqua installed a camera, sensor and computer equipment on board six Danish fishing vessels last year as the basis for the project, which was sponsored by Denmark's Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries. Data was collected from 5,708 hours of fishing through July. According to official records, the vessels were at sea for 16,955 hours on 561 trips.

"The collected video and sensor data has been of high quality. The videos can be rewound back and forth and play in quick version, so the time consumption can be minimized significantly compared to being on board while you get accurate information on actual fishing," said Dalskov.

"By analyzing the video footage, it is easy to recognize the different species in order to ensure high security for verification of catch composition. Overall, the whole system worked almost flawlessly throughout the project, and the data collected is very reliable."

IntraFish Media, September 03, 2009

EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

17 Wireless net sounder

The Trawl Explorer is Marport's latest wireless net sounder for pelagic and deep sea trawling operations. It uses the latest digital signal processing to show net location and behaviour, fish entering the net and water temperature. It has internal data storage with playback capability for historical analysis. The unit's batter is designed for longer operating performance under harsh ocean conditions.

(Marport Stout, USA)

18 Sea Light

Jeongwoo Industrial Co of Rep Korea supplies photosensitive strobe marker lights which have a range of applications in the fishing industry, including for indication of fishing nets and as buoy markers. The lights are lightweight, easy to install and simple to activate as they are photocell-activated. They are made of strong, impact-resistant ABS resin, and come in orange, yellow or red. The high-intensity strobe is visible up to 6 km.

(Jeongwoo Industrial Co Ltd, Rep Korea)

19 Navigation and security sonar

The EV850 is a high-performance hull-mounted searchlight sonar designed for large vessels. It assures safety in unknown or hazardous waters by providing alerts for icebergs, underwater rocks or pinnacles and reefs. It provides scanning capability in harbour entrances for safe passage and tidal anchorage for mooring hazards. It also provides constant 360-degree sonar monitoring beneath the vessel to prevent groundings and to detect intruders.

(Wesmar Western Marine Electronics, USA)

Sonar for fishing vessels

Boasting that it contributes to advancing science and industry by allowing people 'to see things that are normally beyond the realm of visibility', the Furuno Electric Company has a wide range of sonars for use in the maritime industry, including fishing. Among the wide range are the high frequency FSV-84 colour scanning sonar, the highly advanced FSV-24/24S 360-degree scanning sonar, the ground breaking FSV-30/30S scanning sonar, the dual-frequency CH-300 searchlight sonar, the CH-250 searchlight sonar, the

20 Training workshop on postharvest technology for organic fish and seafood

A training workshop was held on 9 - 10 June 2009 in Yangon, Myanmar under the aegis of the ongoing Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) Organic Aquaculture Project, to familiarise the industry with the proper handling and processing procedures for organic fish and fishery products, including marketing. Some 52 participants from industry and the Department of Fisheries (DOF) of Myanmar attended the meeting.

The two-day workshop, opened by Mr Khin Ko Lay, Acting Director General, Department of Fisheries, Myanmar, discussed various subjects such as global seafood markets; organic principles and practices; fish handling, processing and preservation; quality control and traceability; organic certification; labeling, packaging and presentation; transportation storage; and trends and potential for organic and eco-labelled products. Resource persons were Niracha Wongchinda, Lila Ruangpan and Wanwipa Suwannarak

of the Thailand Department of Fisheries; Selina Gan of Country Farm Sdn Bhd, Malaysia and Fatima Ferdouse and Tarlochan Singh fo INFOFISH. The programme included a visit to a processing plant.

21 Regional workshop on the WTO and fisheries in Argentina

A regional workshop called "Impact of the WTO agreements and current WTO negotiations on the fisheries sector" organized jointly by FAO and WTO, took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from June to 2 July 2009. Participants from 10 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela) were invited to present the situation of fish production and trade in their respective countries.

Roland Wiefels from INFOPECSA presented an overview of the regional seafood trade. Other staff members of INFOPECSA who attended the meeting were Santiago Caro and Javier Lopez Rios.

PUBLICATIONS

22 Construction Vessels of the World

9th Edition 1008/2009

Compiled by the Clarkson Research Services division of the world's largest shipbroker, this massive directory is a mine of useful information.

The world fleet of construction vessels is currently almost entirely focussed on offshore oil and gas exploration and development. Increasingly, though, opportunities are being seen in other forms of offshore energy, such as wind and tidal power. There is further potential in coastal and port development as well as in mariculture.

Essentially a global overview of the world fleet, the book also conveys a fine sense of the enormous development that has occurred in the fleet recently. This is in terms of both vessel size and versatility.

A massive and very useful work of research, it omits very few of the world's wide ranging fleet of construction vessels of every imaginable type, format and capacity.

Available from Clarksons, Ledbury, UK.
Web: www.crsl.com

23 Marine Equipment Buyers Guide 2008

Edited by Jonh Fossey

A useful, up-to-date and comprehensive directory, of more than 1,000 marine products and over 2,500 suppliers or stockists of those products.

Highly detailed indexes of both products and supplier companies make information access easy and convenient.

All the companies are listed again under each item of equipment. Those listings provide full contact details as well as the names of key personnel concerned.

As this edition contains at least 50 percent more information than its immediate predecessor it is probably high time it was made available on a tree-saving CD Rom. Better still, it could easily be made available on the "web" and simply up-dated daily.

Available from Lloyd's MIU, London, UK. Web: www.lloydsmiu.com

24 Guidelines on Eco-Labeling for the Canned Tuna Industry

By SEAFDEC

Tuna is one of the important fishes that contribute to the South East Asian Countries. The world production of tunas (including bonitos and bill fishes) in 2006 was 6.5 Million MT (FAO) and the South East Asian Countries contributed 26.2% (1.7 Million MT). In 2006 679,830 MT of tunas (fresh, chilled, frozen and processed) valued at USD 1.72 billion was exported from the SE Asian countries.

Considering the significant contribution of SE countries to the world market, it is necessary that the region complies with the international trade requirements to be able to sustain and enhance the region's trading opportunities. The guidelines on Eco-labelling for the canned Tuna industry was developed through an initiative of SEAFDEC/TD to guide the ASEAN member countries to develop more specific code for their country.

Available from: SEAFDEC/TD, Thailand

25 Canada: Orders five new search and rescue vessels

Canada has awarded a contract valued at \$19.6 million to a shipbuilding company in Victoria, BC to build five new 47-foot motor life boats for the Canadian Coast Guard. The new vessels will be used by the Canadian Coast Guard for search and rescue operations across the country.

Two of the vessels will be based in British Columbia and one each in Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia.

These vessels will be the latest additions to the existing fleet of 31 47-foot motor lifeboats, introduced to the Canadian Coast Guard in 1999 and later. The basic design was obtained from the US Coast Guard (USCG) following their extensive testing. The USCG design was modified to best fit the needs of the Canadian Coast Guard.

Funding for the five new vessels is provided under Canada's Economic Action Plan and the vessels will be delivered by March 2011.

World Fishing September 2009

26 Pacific : Taiwanese ships caught illegally transferring tuna at sea

Two Taiwanese longline tuna fishing vessels have been caught illegally transferring fish at sea by Greenpeace. Fishing vessels Her Hae and Jia Yu Fa were carrying tuna and shark fins, and were photographed while transferring tuna from one ship to another in a pocket of international waters between Papua New Guinea and the Federated States of Micronesia, an area proposed as a marine reserve. They abandoned their transshipment process and fled the area as the Greenpeace ship Esperanza approached the vicinity, report Greenpeace.

The Esperanza escorted the vessel Jia Yu Fa out of international waters and into the waters of the Federated States of Micronesia where it has license to fish. Greenpeace has reported the Taiwanese vessels' illegal transshipment at sea to the relevant authorities.

Pockets of international waters in the Pacific, which are regulated by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), are known to be especially vulnerable to pirate fishing. The WCPFC has agreed to close two of the pockets to purse seining from January 2010 but the areas will remain vulnerable to overfishing by longline fleets.

"Members of the WCPFC must now shut down all pockets of international waters to all fishing including longlining and ban the transshipment of fish at sea, which currently gives pirate tuna fleets the opportunity to keep plundering the Pacific Ocean," said Josua Turaganivalu, Oceans Campaigner of Greenpeace Australia onboard the Esperanza.

World Fishing September, 2009

27 Philippines: To designate more marine sanctuaries

While the Philippines law requires local government units (LGUs) to allocate 15 percent of their municipal waters for the establishment of marine protected areas (MPAs), only a few LGUs have complied with the law. Nationwide, roughly one percent of the entire country's municipal waters are allocated for marine protected areas.

"If you total the number of hectares (of MPAs) compared to the total area of municipal waters, roughly less than one percent is covered as MPAs," said lawyer Rose-Liza Osorio, executive director of the Coastal

Conservation and Education Foundation Inc (CCEF).

Republic Act (RA) 8550, or the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, requires LGUs to establish at least 15 percent of their municipal waters for MPAs. However, not all LGUs are following the mandate.

"That at least fifteen percent where applicable of the total coastal areas in the municipality shall be identified, based on the best available scientific data and in consultation with the Department, and automatically designated as fish sanctuaries by the LGUs in consultation with the concerned FARMCs (Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Councils)," reads section 18 of RA 8550.

"That is why most organizations like us are advocating we establish bigger sanctuaries and more sanctuaries so that we can reach that target," said Osorio. She explained that should the area covered by MPAs remain to be small in the years to come, coral reefs might be in danger. "If we stay at this level, at this total area of MPAs, we cannot reach the level of protection that we need for our coral reefs for 100 years. It would take more than 100 years to do so," said Osorio.

While organizations like the CCEF have been pushing for the establishment of additional MPAs in the country, Osorio said the law still lacks teeth. "At the national level, it is not a national program. Like in other Micronesian island nations, they have Micronesian Channel. (They have) a national program (that) mandates that 20 percent of their waters is allocated for the establishment of marine protected areas," she said. "Here, it is not. You don't hear the statement: 'This is what we have to do...' It is in the law, but it not really followed. There is just no political will."

However, Edmundo Arregadas, chief of the Coastal Marine and Management Division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) 7, said that most municipalities are not even sure how big their municipal waters are. "(So) they do not know how much is 15 percent of their actual municipal waters," he said.

Besides, he said, this is impossible to do if the coral reefs in the municipal waters are small. "If the municipal waters have small coral reefs, it would be useless if you'd (designate) a big fraction of it for an MPA," he said.

MPAs are primarily created to restore critical marine areas, preserve marine biodiversity, conserve ecosystems, maintain ecological processes and protect marine species. "(But) it (would need) a lot of consultation with the communities," said Osorio. Central Visayas is home to more than 400 MPAs that are the sanctuaries of many marine species, effectively making it the "centre of the centre of biodiversity," she said.

The DENR reports that the local government manages 90 percent of all the MPAs in the region. However, only 10 to 20 percent of these MPAs are effectively managed. The DENR, and organizations like the CCEF, continue with their advocacies in providing trainings for LGUs for the proper management of their sanctuaries. "We provide MPA management trainings, as well as development and capacity training for LGUs," said Arregadas.

ICSF 23 September 2009

28 France: Spanish vessel detained for overfishing

A fishing vessel sailing under the Spanish flag was inspected by a

French patrol boat and subsequently detained at the port of La Rochelle, on the Atlantic coast of France, for storing an excess of captures in its hold, the Prefecture of the Charente-Maritime department reports.

The fishing vessel, which had been participating in the skipjack tuna season, carried "one tonne of undeclared tuna" aboard, the reason behind why it was detained and led to the French port, explained Prefect Cabinet Director Eleonore Lacroix.

The French Court initiated an investigation after the detection of alleged irregularities in its catch declarations, since the fishing log book was not up-to-date when local authorities inspected the vessel.

According to the president of the Popular Party of Cantabria, Ignacio Diego, the *Madre Lita* was inspected some 12 miles off the French coast. The version of events the Cantabria government received from the Cantabria Fishers Guild Federation points to a problem of catch being registered by weight, but not by number of units.

France must determine if it will economically sanction the fishing vessel or ban it from fishing for a time. Diego expressed his support for the detained fishers and called on the delegation of the government and the Autonomous Executive branch to adopt "timely measures" so that crewmembers "have the Administration on their side."

In addition, he lamented the "delicate state" of the fishing sector and recalled problems like the "notable delays" in the payment of aid, the closing of the anchovy fishing-ground and the state of the skipjack tuna season-one of the worst in recent years, Europa Press reports.

On 13 July, the Aviles market received a voluminous landing of tuna, an event that made a record auction of 90 tonnes possible the following day. The euphoria was short-lived, however; the day was only an exception, not only in Aviles, but also in the rest of Cantabria, management sources at the Alvila market agree.

The Intrafish, August 27, 2009

29 Spain: Fail to agree capacity freeze

The Five tuna-related Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) failed to reach an agreement on the EU's proposed global capacity freeze at the Second Joint Meeting of the RFMOs hosted by the EU in San Sebastian, Spain, in July.

More than 50 member governments of the five RFMOs instead agreed to convene workshops on excess capacity and other pressing matters such as preventing illegal fishing and by-catch of turtles, sharks, juvenile tuna and other marine life.

The San Sebastian meeting, dubbed "Kobe 2", has no formal legal status but adopted recommendations to reinforce the course of action to improve and streamline international management of high-seas tuna fisheries agreed at the first Kobe meeting in Japan in 2007.

EU fisheries commissioner Joe Borg says: "The Kobe process has allowed for real progress to be made. I am glad that the international community has recognised the value of this tool which allows us to establish best-practice in managing the world's tuna stocks, and to measure RFMOs progress towards that gold standard.

" But I am disappointed that differences in positions between the parties made it impossible to agree on the global capacity freeze proposed by the EU. It is vital that we find a way to bridge the gap between the developing states and other partners, so that effective action on this issue can be taken as soon as possible."

The next Kobe meeting will be held in 2011. The European Commission hopes that a ministerial-level meeting can also be organised around that time, to give high level political endorsement to process and help ensure that its recommendations are carried forward rapidly into practice.

In June, Joe Borg commented: "Most tuna stocks around the world are overfished because there are simply too many tuna vessels pursuing them."

His words followed an EU statement describing as "disappointing" the progress made by tuna RFMOs since Kobe 1.

The statement said: "Three of the five tuna RFMOs (CCSBT, ICCAT and IOTC) have implemented independent performance reviews, and there have been meetings to discuss the implementation of a global record of vessels and a model catch documentation scheme.

"But in general, follow-through has been disappointing."

The five tuna-related RFMOs are the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Fishing News International, August 2009

30 Europe: Biggest fish market

Europe was the world's largest market for fish and aquaculture products in 2007, according to a study from the European Commission reported by Intrafish Media.

The EU led Japan and the US as the largest market for fish at 12 million tonnes worth €55 billion (US\$77.8 billion).

The findings were presented in the in the European Commission report Study on the supply and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products in the EU.

European consumption represented 47 billion (US\$66.5 billion), ahead of Japan with €46 billion (US\$65 billion) and the USA on €10 billion (US\$14 billion).

Japan showed the highest per capita fish bought at 17.4 % of the food budget, with the EU second on 6.5% and the US on 2.4%.

Two-thirds of EU expenditure was in three countries: Spain, €10.5 billion (US\$14.8 billion); France, €10.3 billion (US\$14.6 billion); and Italy, €8.6 billion (US\$12.2 billion).

Fishing News International, September 2009

Calendar

November

Asian Pacific Aquaculture Expo 2009

3 - 6 November, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Information: Asian-Pacific Aquaculture 2009
Conference Manager, PO Box 2302, Valley
Center, CA92082 USA.
Tel: 1-760-7515005
Fax: 1-760-7515003

and/or

Malaysian International Seafood Exposition
Tel: 603-88704206
Fax: 603-88891195
Email: mazuki@dof.gov.my
Website: www.dof.gov.my

Busan International Seafood & Fisheries Expo 2009

12 - 14 November, Busan South Korea.
Information: BISFE 2009 Secretariat (BEXCO)
Tel: 82-51-7407362
Fax: 82-51-7407360

Email: bisfe@bexco.co.kr
Website: www.bisfe.com

Expo Pesca 2009

12-14 November, Jockey Plaza Convention
Center, Lima, Peru
Information: Guillermo Thais, Thais
Corporation SAC
Tel: 511-3444386
Email: thais@amauta.rcp.net.pe
Website: thaiscorp.com/expopesca_new

EU-East ASEAN Growth Area (EUGA) Business & Technology partnership

16 - 19 November, Imperial Hotel, Miri,
Sarawak, Malaysia
Information: Tel: 603-88848962
Email: info@eu-eaga.org
Website: www.eu-eaga.org

East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2009

23 - 27 November, Manila, Philippines.
Information: EAS Congress 2009 Secretariat,

PEMSEA Resource Facility, DENR
Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, QC
Philippines.
Tel: 632-9292992, Fax: 632-9269712
Email: congress@pemsea.org

December

Shanghai International Fishery & Seafood
Expo (SISFE) 2009

9 - 12 December, SECECE, Shanghai,
China.
Information: Mr Daniel Hai
Tel: 86-21-34110855
Fax: 86-21-64516467
Email: daniel@sifse.com

January

IndAquria 2010

8 - 10 January, Chennai, India
MPEDA House, Panampilly Nagar, Kochi-
682036, Kerala, India.
Tel: 91-484-2316869
Email: anil@mpeda.nic.in

The Fishing Technology Digest for Asia Pacific

is now on-line at our website <http://www.infofish.org>

Please visit the website for latest updates.

INFOFISH

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION FOR MARKETING INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICES FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS IN THE ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION.

Here is how INFOFISH helps:

- * providing technical advisory services on all phases of harvesting, handling, processing of fish, aquaculture and marketing of fishery products
- * offering you marketing links to and from the largest fish producing area in the world
- * assisting the day-to-day fish trade by identifying new marketing opportunities for companies in the Asia-Pacific region and new sources for supply importers
- * offering technical and sales support services through informative publications
 - i) INFOFISH Trade News
 - ii) INFOFISH International
 - iii) Special studies
- * offering training, consultancy services and conferences, seminars & workshops

The next issue of INFOFISH Fishing Technology Digest will be distributed in **November, 2009**. Please forward any information you may wish to have disseminated through this digest to: **The Editor, INFOFISH Fishing Technology Digest, P.O. Box 10899, 50728, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 603-20783466, Fax: 603-20786804, E.Mail: infish@po.jaring.my**