

International **Tug & OSV**

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Surface Treated Composites, White Book

Surface Treated Composites, White Book is a complete reference on hard, non-toxic hull coating systems and in-water cleaning. It also includes information which could save shipowners and operators between 8-40 per cent of their current fuel bill, while providing an environmentally benign way to protect ships' hulls and keep them smooth and free of fouling.

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has been researched and recorded by others of a similar mindset around the world. The author, Boud Van Rompay, founder and CEO of Hydrex, told *IT&O*: "The biggest maritime disaster ever is created by the long term repetitive use of antifouling 'paints'. These paints create a phenomenon that we have called long-term paint degradation. Its effects are excessive bunker consumption at an incredible rate. Finally, there are other long-term damaging effects on marine life that we have not seen or learned yet." He does have a solution: "We are now designing and developing extremely fast ship hull cleaning systems, very much comparable to an ultrafast carwash but for ships."

And some willingness to change." Published by Tahoka Press, *Surface Treated Composites* is available online at www.tahokapress.com.



Boud Van Rompay



Exploring non-toxic alternatives to hull protection

Surface Treated Composites, White Book is a look into non-toxic, cost-effective alternative technology for underwater ship hull protection and biofouling control, by Boud Van Rompay.

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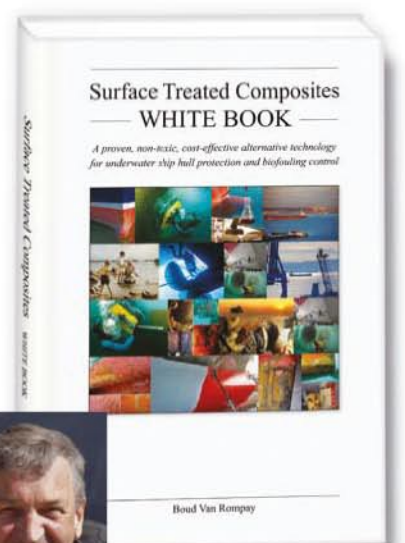
Van Rompay's offering explores alternative technology with the premise that the marine environment should be kept clean and free of toxic chemicals which pollute the water and contaminate the sediment. Shipping, according to Van Rompay, should be able to operate and expand without harming or destroying the environment in which it operates, and that there is a non-toxic answer which is also economical.

The book is the result of 40 years of research, development, study, practical application and experience, added to the wealth of information on the subject which

has been researched and recorded by others of a similar mindset around the world.

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A snippet from the book's conclusion explains Van Rompay's approach to coatings: "I am convinced that the onslaught upon marine life that we call 'antifouling technology' is a mere brutal and indiscriminate attack on life forms we should respect and protect." He goes on to add that there is a real and serious danger of permanent damage to marine life. Changes can be made for the better and result in cost-savings, but first the industry needs to put in "a little effort and a bit of elbow grease.



▲ Surface Treated Composites, White Book.
◀ Boud Van Rompay.

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