



Communiqué de presse - Sea Tech Week® 2022: imagining the future of maritime transport

12 septembre 2022 - 11h15



Sea Tech Week®, which is being held for the 13th time this year between 26 and 30 September in Brest, will bring together around 1,000 professionals, researchers, engineers and a range of organisations to explore the theme of ‘Maritime transport: towards smarter and greener solutions’.

A packed programme lies ahead for the week, including a science and technology conference, a trade show, B2B meetings and social events. This year’s topics will include artificial intelligence, sail propulsion, marine pollution, marine renewable energy and collaboration with India – this year’s featured country. Further cross-cutting issues will be explored, including training for marine-related professions and the place of women in marine science and technology.

Held every two years for over 20 years now, Sea Tech Week® is dedicated to marine science and technology and attracts a wealth of international experts. Two additional events are being hosted this year: the 18th French Congress of Sedimentology, to be held from 28 to 30 September at Brest Expo; and the Rendez-Vous de Concarneau (‘Where industry meets science’), focusing on biomimetics, on 29 and 30 September at Brest Expo and the Concarneau Marine Station.

Highlights of the week

Opening of the trade show, 27 September (11.30 am)

Sea Tech Week® 2022 will be officially opened on 27 September (1.45 - 2.15 pm) in the presence of **François Cuillandre** (President of Brest Métropole), **Loïc Chesnais-Girard** (President of the Regional Council of Brittany), **Olivier Poivre d’Arvor** (French ambassador for polar and maritime issues), **Charlina Vitcheva** (Director-General, DG MARE, European Commission), **Pierre Karleskind** MEP and Honorable **Shri Sarbananda Sonowal** (Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, India).

- A five-day conference: three plenary sessions and 30 parallel sessions for exploring all aspects of the central theme.
- Gala evening at the Ateliers des Capucins (28 September).
- Networking and B2B meetings, organised jointly by Bretagne Développement Innovation and the Enterprise Europe Network (27-29 September).

A rich programme, with valuable networking opportunities

To explore the issues around making maritime transport smarter and greener, Sea Tech Week® has invited experts and professionals to take part in various discussions and debates.

Three plenary sessions

The three plenaries will take the form of hour-long round-table discussions on the big issues, with a focus on the future.

- Tuesday 27 September, 2.15 pm:
New propulsion systems for low-carbon shipping
With Jacques Barreau (Grain de Sail, France) on transport under sail, Jason A. McFarlane (Hyke, Norway) on electric transportation, and Jérôme Majcher (IFP Energies Nouvelles, France), who will set out the state of research in this area.
- Wednesday 28 September, 2 pm:
Data challenges applied to maritime transport
With Eric Bustarret (Head of IT Architecture, Brittany Ferries), Amadeus Beaujolin (Blue Observer, France) on sail-powered oceanographic missions, and Rajesh Alla (IIC Technologies, India) on geolocation solutions and services for maritime transport.
- Thursday 29 September, 2 pm:
Evolution of training and jobs, the place of women in maritime transport
With Claire Jolly (OECD), on statistics and trends in training and new job roles, Sanjam Sahi Gupta (founder of WISTA India, an international association whose mission is to attract and support women in the maritime, trading and logistics sectors), and Lénaïc Segalen (CINav - Campus des Industries Navales) on naval jobs, plus feedback from two former students.

Thirty parallel sessions

The parallel sessions allow the main themes discussed in plenary to be broadened and analysed in more depth. They are coordinated by experts from companies, research centres and other institutions. Topics will include climate change adaptation, the IHO's new S-100 standard, the latest innovations for greener maritime transport, sail propulsion, offshore hydrogen, and limiting or preventing underwater noise.

A range of voices

A range of contributors will be appearing at Sea Tech Week® - whether at the opening session, in plenary or at the parallel sessions. Officials, researchers, industry leaders, engineers, students and other specialists will all be around the table. The event brings together the top speakers, including representatives of both French and international bodies:

- A 50-strong delegation from India will include Government and Embassy representatives, as well as those from businesses, higher education and research:
 - **Honorable Shri Sarbananda Sonowal**, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
 - **His Excellency Mr Jawed Ashraf**, Indian Ambassador to France
 - **Neerja Singh**, Senior Director, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
 - **B. K. Mishra, Director, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Goa**
- National, European Parliament and OECD representatives:
 - **Olivier Poivre d'Arvor**, French ambassador for polar and maritime issues
 - **Pierre Karleskind** MEP
 - **Claire Jolly**, Head of Unit - Space & Ocean, Directorate for Science, Technology and innovation OECD
- Representatives of internationally renowned companies, including **Brittany Ferries, ECA Group, Hyke, IIC Technologies, iXblue, Maersk, Naval Group, Navgathi** and **Thales**.
- Stakeholders in the knowledge community, including Cedre, the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), France Energies Marines, ENSTA Bretagne, Ifremer, IMT Atlantique, the French Polar Institute, IIT Goa, the French Naval Service (SHOM), the Indian National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), the Indian National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (Riken, Japan), the University of Brest (UBO) and the University of Plymouth (UK).

[Registration for Sea Tech Week® 2022 is still open!](#)

About Sea Tech Week®

Sea Tech Week® is an international event dedicated to marine and maritime science and technology. It attracts over a thousand top international experts to Brest, France, every two years, representing a wide variety of ocean-related disciplines. Sea Tech Week® is a conference including science and technology talks, a professional trade fair, BtoB meetings, company and laboratory tours and a gala evening.

This event provides scientists, companies, clusters, students and others the opportunity to share progress in research and innovation, forge a professional network of contacts and improve partnerships and cooperation.

Sea Tech Week® is organised by Technopôle Brest-Iroise through Campus mondial de la mer, France's premier community of experts in studying and working with the ocean, located at the tip of Brittany. This event is supported by Brest métropole, Brittany Region, the European Union (ERDF) and Crédit Mutuel Arkéa

Sea Tech Week® website: www.seatechweek.eu

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