



The Knowledge Centre Manoeuvring in Shallow and Confined Water wishes you all the best for the year 2010.

New goals, wishes and intentions come with a new year. This is not different for our team and therefore we start with a periodical [newsletter](#) to inform you regularly on new developments and nautical research carried out at Flanders Hydraulics Research and Ghent University.



With the scientific support of the [Maritime Technology Division](#) of [Ghent University](#), the Knowledge Centre Manoeuvring in Shallow and Confined Water has been created in May 2008. The goals of this Knowledge Centre are to consolidate, extend and disseminate the scientific and experience based knowledge on the behaviour of ships in shallow and confined water in order to support the admittance policy to the (Flemish) harbours and the development of waterways for seagoing and inland shipping. [Read more](#)



One of the principal goals of the Knowledge Centre is the exchange and dissemination of knowledge on the manoeuvring behaviour of ships in shallow and confined water. The three day [International Conference on Ship Manoeuvring in Shallow and Confined Water: Ship to Ship Interaction](#) will be organised in Trondheim, Norway from 18 to 20 May 2011. This conference will deliver a platform to exchange knowledge and experience on ship to ship interaction and related topics. [Read more](#).



The dimensions of the largest container carriers have increased spectacularly. For this reason, a new regulation for the upstream and downstream navigation on the Western Scheldt is required. Can the present generation of ultra large container ships reach the port of Antwerp safely and smoothly? Flanders Hydraulics Research contributed to an answer to this question: experienced pilots managed to navigate container carriers up to 14000 TEU with a draft up to 145 dm to the Delwaide Dock in the virtual reality of the simulators. More information on this research project, carried out with the scientific support of Ghent University – Maritime Technology Division and the financial support of the Shipping Assistance Division, can be found [here](#).



This research will be presented during the [PIANC MMX conference](#) in May 2010 in Liverpool



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