

Turkey



Shipbuilding at Cemre Shipyard (left) and Turkish Chamber of Shipping (DTO) chairman Metin Kalkavan (below left). Photos: CEMRE AND TRADEWINDS EVENTS

"We cannot compete in standard type of bulk carriers, tankers and containers. We must concentrate on specialised shipping," he continued to maintain.

Another two Yalova-based yards are Tersan and Cemre, both of which have reeled in orders in recent months.

In August, US-based Tidewater booked an MPSV with Tersan for delivery in 2016. There are options for a further three similar vessels attached.

Norwegian Troms Offshore Supply Group, a 100%-owned subsidiary of Tidewater, will operate the newbuilding, which will be equipped to operate in Arctic conditions.

Cemre also signed contracts earlier this year for four wet fish trawlers for Icelandic companies Samherji, which will take three units, and Fisk Seafood, which will take the fourth. The quartet is slated for 2016 delivery. These ships are Cemre's first order outside Norway and, as the company says, it is a big step to enter the Icelandic fishing market.

Just last month, Sefine Shipyard together with Polish Remontowa Shipbuilding bagged orders for four car-passenger ferries from the Port of Tallinn, in Estonia. Two of the 114-metre long ships will be built at the Turkish yard. The diesel engine ferries have been designed by Norwegian company LMG Marin in such a way that in future the main engines can be replaced by engines running on LNG, the port's announcement said.

"We look forward to continuing our previous co-operation with LMG Marin from building four comparable vessels for a Norwegian operator," said Sefine general co-ordinator Akin Tuzcuoglu.

Back on the Tuzla side of the Gulf, Kaptanoglu Group's Desan Shipyard, which dropped out of shipbuilding after delivering its last 6,400-dwt IMO-II tanker in 2011, is now ready to dip its toes into the construction pool again.

The yard already has a contract to build the hull of a 5,000-dwt platform supply vessel (PSV) for Norwegian shipyard Simek.

"It is a small project but it's a start," said Sadan Kaptanoglu of the HI Kaptanoglu Group.

The group's core business is shiprepair, Kaptanoglu says, but because it wants to re-enter the construction side it has purchased the rights to operate the neighbouring plot that was previously leased to Sahin Celik.

Tuzla's yards cannot be bought outright. The land is on long-term lease from the government.

Kaptanoglu was unable to reveal more detail about plans for the newbuilding facility other than to hint that several enquiries are pending but cannot be disclosed yet.

"We will always look at the niche markets but other than that we will not touch any kind of speculative business or any business where we cannot be competitive," she said.

Echoing the words of Yavuz Kalkavan, Kaptanoglu says she believes niche markets are the only area where Turkey can really be competitive.

Whatever the difficulties they have faced, the Turkish shipyard owners still maintain sixth position in the world, based on the number of orders, according to ambassador Uras.

Some murmur that building one-off orders and not series of vessels can never be truly profitable and while numbers look good they query the profit margins.

But ignoring the gloom-and-doom brigade, Turkey's shipyards are by and large keeping afloat and if effort and energy deserve any reward, they should keep going for a long time to come.



Besiktas Group chief executive Yavuz Kalkavan: Our reputation is increasing in both the shipbuilding and shiprepair segments and we very evidently are getting better and better enquiries and better business every day.

Piraeus
133, Filonos str., 185 36 Piraeus
Tel.: +(30) 210 42 82 956-8

Istanbul
Fahrettin Kerim Gökay cd.,
No 172/11 Göztepe,
Tel.: +(90) 216 477 74 07-8

Adriatic Sea
Adriatic Shipyard, Bijela
Montenegro
Tel + (382) 31 671017

e-mails
piraeus@margetis.com
istanbul@margetis.com
adriatic@margetis.com
yachting@margetis.com
repairs@margetis.com



TECHNICAL CONSULTING
SURVEYS
P&I
INVESTIGATION
CONDITION SURVEYS
AND ASSESSMENTS
YACHTING
CONSULTING
REPRESENTATION
OF SHIPYARDS
AROUND THE WORLD
SHIP & YACHT
REPAIR MANAGEMENT

MARGETIS
MARITIME CONSULTING
MARINE ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS

www.margetis.com