



GREENSHOOTS

AzkoNobel signs on the green line

AzkoNobel has underlined its commitment to an environmentally-sustainable future for shipping by signing the 'The Copenhagen Communiqué on Climate Change'. Chief Executive Hans Wijers recently added his name alongside hundreds of other global business executives who are calling on world leaders to close a deal on climate change when they meet in Copenhagen in December.

Advocating the key points of the Communiqué, Mr Wijers said he supported the notion that global economic development cannot be sustained in the longer term unless the climate is stabilised. He said the right

economic backdrop was required if industry leaders are expected to invest billions of dollars in low carbon products, services, technologies and infrastructure.

International shipping has found itself in the environmental spotlight recently amid criticism that it has not done enough to limit its emissions, despite various technologies already in existence today which are designed to cut shipping's emissions by significant margins. Despite this, Mr Wijers believes further action could be taken by the industry.

Recognised for technological development in the field of environmentally-

friendly solutions for shipping, AzkoNobel's subsidiary, International Paint, has developed a reputable fuel-saving, emissions-reducing hull coating, yet the number of owners choosing to invest in this new generation of coatings is still worryingly small.

AzkoNobel's Mr Wijers said: "We need to get the message across ... we have the technology today. I really do hope that our leaders can reach a robust deal in Copenhagen and that those in shipping take note of the technologies that are already available today." ■