

International Paint improves anti-fouling

UK-based International Paint continues to upgrade its product range.

International Paint has recently enhanced its Intersmooth range of self-polishing copolymer (SPC) anti-fouling. The company has fine-tuned the coating's composition to produce a high solids version, to both improve antifouling performance and reduce environmental impact in a way that will benefit in-service applications.

The high volume solids, Intersmooth 7465HS SPC for newbuildings and Intersmooth 7460HS SPC for maintenance and repair, are based on patented copper acrylate technology. Advantages highlighted by International Paint include the scope to raise drydock productivity, as the higher solids content means that fewer, thicker coats of up to 200 microns can be used.

Fewer coats save time on application and a typical five year scheme can now be based on two coats instead of three, the company claims. Other benefits cited by International Paint include less overspray and a smoother finish, helping to cut fuel consumption.

International Paint has also recently launched a new range of universal primers, although these are mainly for the newbuilding market. According to the company the product range offers universal application, high volume solids with low Volatile Organic Compound (VOC), year round workability with fast drying, low temperature cure and long overcoating intervals.

Leading the range is Intershield 300, which has a lengthy track record having



Intershield 300 in a ballast tank after 13 years of service.

been applied on over 9000 vessels to date. According to Jim Brown, marketing development manager: "Intershield 300 is the industry benchmark in International Maritime Organization (IMO) Performance Standards for Protective Coatings (PSPC) compliant anticorrosive performance. This abrasion resistant aluminium pure epoxy coating can be applied to multiple vessel areas over mechanically prepared shop primer and offers long term asset protection

and control of through life maintenance costs."

The newly developed Intershield 300HS is a high solids version of this established technology which offers 78% volume solids, lower VOC and application direct from the can without thinning. Currently available in Europe, the product will be available worldwide by mid-2010. In Europe, the product will be available worldwide by mid-2010. **SRCT**