

## Intersleek yields positive results for Cunard

Having chosen the fluoropolymer foul release coating, Intersleek 900, for the underwater hull of the ocean liner *Queen Mary 2*, Cunard Line has reported positive performance results. Around 6,000m<sup>2</sup> of the hull was hydroblasted and recoated during a maintenance and repair docking at Blohm & Voss, Hamburg – the hull was previously coated with a self polishing copolymer (SPC) antifouling.

The decision to switch to International Paint's Intersleek 900 was an integral part of a strategic initiative by Cunard to reduce fuel usage, cost and associated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions whilst still maintaining operational schedules. David Strawford, head of technical services at Carnival UK, says, "To date, performance results have been very positive. The ship is achieving operational speed whilst utilising less power than previously, and this represents a significant improvement compared to the earlier SPC system."

Following the introduction of Intersleek 900 in 2007, the company is currently upgrading several existing silicone coated vessels to advanced fluoropolymer technology. Said to be



*Queen Mary 2* was coated with Intersleek 900 during a drydocking at Blohm & Voss smoother, tougher and with better foul release capabilities than its silicone based predecessor, Intersleek 900 has also recently been applied on P&O Cruises' *Arcadia*.