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## **Rheinmetall: 18th MariTEAM-Users Conference for maritime simulation a major success**

At the start of September, Rheinmetall successfully conducted its 18<sup>th</sup> MariTEAM Users Conference for maritime simulation. More than sixty international experts from the worlds of science and industry gathered at Elsfleth in Lower Saxony and Rostock on the Baltic, on 2-5 September. This now well-established international conference was co-hosted by Rheinmetall's Maritime Simulation & Training product unit, the Maritime Competence Center in Elsfleth, and the CSMART AIDA Cruise Academy in Rostock.

Just as in previous years, the MariTEAM Users Conference offered experts in maritime simulation an excellent opportunity to report on ideas and experiences arising from the challenges they face in their daily work. Sharing experiences in this way increases the common body of knowledge of all international maritime simulation users.

The first day of the conference took place in Elsfleth, with the focus on loading and unloading cargo ships as well as the offshore wind industry. A high point was the visit to the new heavy-lift crane simulator at the Maritime Competence Centre. This training system enables crews of heavy-lift vessels, offshore installation vessels and supply ships to practice complex loading operations. The simulator replicates the behaviour of cranes with regard to various loads, weather conditions and technical restrictions in a highly realistic manner.

The conference days in Rostock featured a broad mix of presentations on research activities, technological challenges and current trends in simulation and training for nautical and marine engineering applications. Rheinmetall presented its latest product developments and announced the market launch of its new DISI-Xtreme visual system. This new-generation visual system is based on an off-the-shelf game engine. Adapted to the needs of professional simulation, it represents a quantum leap in terms of realistic depiction of training scenarios.

A visit to the CSMART AIDA Cruise Academy rounded out the four-day conference. In order to meet the Group's own high standards for training its personnel, in September 2012 AIDA established its own simulation centre where it relies on Rheinmetall simulators.

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