

IHC Merwede

IHC Merwede is focussed on the continuous development of design and construction activities for the specialist maritime sector. It is the global market leader for efficient dredging and mining vessels and equipment – with vast experience accumulated over decades – and a reliable supplier of custom-built ships and supplies for offshore construction.



IHC Merwede has in-house expertise for engineering and manufacturing innovative vessels and advanced equipment, as well as providing life-cycle support. Its integrated systematic approach has helped to develop optimum product performance and long-term business partnerships.

The company's broad customer base includes dredging operators, oil and gas corporations, offshore contractors and government authorities.

IHC Merwede has over 3,000 employees based at various locations in The Netherlands, China, Croatia, France, India, the Middle East, Nigeria, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Technological innovation will remain the company's underlying strength through its continuous investment in research and development. Moreover, it helps to safeguard a sustainable environment.

IHC Dredgers

Based in Kinderdijk, The Netherlands, IHC Dredgers is part of the IHC Merwede and the global market leader in the development, engineering and construction of self-propelled dredgers. These vessels meet the specific requirements of the customer, because they are involved in every step of the design process.

The knowledge and expertise of the shipyard's in-house engineering team are reflected in every detail of the building. These qualities are complemented by the investment that has been made by IHC Dredgers in CAD/CAE/CAM technologies.

All the main dredging components and systems are designed and produced within IHC Merwede. Other parts are manufactured in close co-operation with suppliers in this region of The Netherlands, which guarantees optimum integration of dredging and other vital systems.

The manufacturing facilities consist of a state-of-the-art covered slipway, which can accommodate newly built ships to a maximum of approximately 200 by 31 metres in length and breadth respectively. The yard is located on a wide waterway with open access to the Rotterdam port area.

Furthermore, IHC Dredgers' base consists of advanced pre-fabrication machines and climate-controlled painting facilities. Highly skilled workers, in-house engineers and an optimum interior production process guarantee impeccable standards of quality, combined with short project lead times.

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Naming and launch ceremony for **VICTOR HORTA**

December 15th, 2010



DEME

Dredging, Environmental
& Marine Engineering



DBM

Building Materials

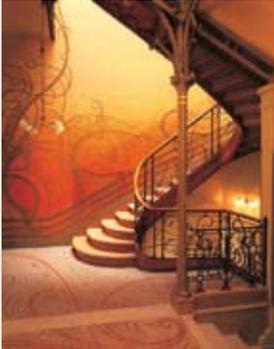
The technology innovator.

VICTOR HORTA

On May 16th, 2008 the contract was signed between DEME nv (Dredging, Environmental & Marine Engineering) and IHC Dredgers B.V. for the design, construction and delivery of 5,000 m³ gravel trailer. The dredger is specifically designed for extracting sand and gravel from the sea, for the building industry.

The keel for this vessel was laid on March 19th 2010, at the IHC Merwede Shipyard VSH in Heusden. Today, Wednesday December 15th 2010, this ship is named and launched by Mrs Rachel Brett, spouse of Mr Bill Brett , chairman of the Brett Group, the largest independent construction and building materials group in the UK.

The vessel, started as CO1257, will get the name VICTOR HORTA, making reference to one of Belgium's leading artists in the period of Art Nouveau. Victor Horta (Gent, 1861 – Brussels,1947) has designed a large number of houses such as "Hotel Tassel" in Brussels, the first significant expression of Art Nouveau in architecture, from which a picture is shown.



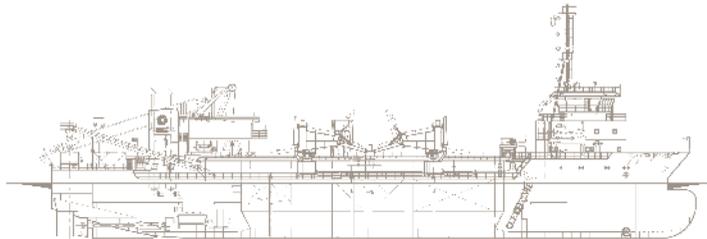
The design of the VICTOR HORTA is based on the record-breaking sand and gravel dredger CHARLEMAGNE, delivered by IHC in 2003 under the number CO1230. With her powerful underwater pump the VICTOR HORTA is able to win sand and gravel up to a depth of 60 metres below sea level. With the addition of VICTOR HORTA to her fleet DEME confirms her strong position on the sand and gravel market.

Main particulars

Length overall	99.90m
Length between perpendiculars	92,50m
Breadth, moulded	20.80m
Depth, moulded	9.20m
Draught at dredging mark	8.50m
Dredging depth	40.00/50.00/60.00m
Hopper capacity	5,000m ³
Suction pipe diameter	700mm
Total power	5990kW
Speed	13,4 knots
Accommodation	15 persons

The vessel is being built to the requirements and under the supervision of Bureau Veritas for the Class:

I 3/3 ✕ Hopper Dredger (Deep Sea) AUT – MS



DEME-group

The Belgian dredging- and environmental group DEME is a conglomerate of companies, of which the roots were established 150 years ago. The Group is specialised in capital and maintenance dredging; port construction and port expansion; services for the oil & gas industry; wreck removal; deep-sea activities; the construction of offshore wind farms; and a whole range of environmental activities- from water purification to sludge recycling, to soil remediation and the treatment of heavy or contaminated sediments. DEME has a modern and varied fleet of 90 large dredging vessels and approximately 200 auxiliary vessels. DEME employs 4,000 people. The Group works worldwide - in 2010 projects are being executed in 50 countries, spread over the 5 continents. The current investment programme in high-tech material for a total amount of 1.5 billion Euro, will enable DEME to face the future with an ultra-efficient and very modern fleet. The turnover for 2010 is expected to reach appr. 1.8 billion Euro.

DEME Building Materials (DBM) specializes in the extraction, processing and supply of marine aggregates for the construction industry. The wide geographical spread of its marine aggregate reserves allows DBM to offer an attractive alternative to river-dredged materials for ready-mix concrete and concrete products. Sand and gravel products are produced according to client specifications and in response to national and European standards.

DBM has increased its market share in a number of countries. DBM's strategic alliances with industry partners in the Europe/Baltic area - who offer a complementary range of activities and products - further enhance its strategic position in the aggregates market.

DBM's gravel trailer CHARLEMAGNE, with a hopper capacity of 5,000m³ and aggregate winning depth of 60m, has been a big performer, making the difference in this market segment since 2002. With the new 5,000m³ gravel trailer VICTOR HORTA, DBM will operate the two largest and most advanced gravel trailers available on the marine aggregates market.