

BOATS & GEAR

A virtual 'who's who' in the French maritime industry made up the extensive list of high quality exhibitors at the recently-held NAVEXPO in Lorient, France (May 10th - 12th)

Cormac Burke

With the theme of 'something for everyone' NAVEXPO lived up to its name in providing interesting displays and opportunities for everyone involved in vessels in the marine sector, particularly in the fishing, aquaculture and general tug/workboat divisions.

With visitors hailing from as far afield as China and Australia, this Lorient show, held in the heart of the local fishing and shipbuilding industry, proved to be an ideal location with the ambition of local expo organiser Gildas Bernard aiming to not just promote this event but to highlight the Lorient region in general as one of the most important fisheries and maritime coastal ports in the whole of France.

No doubt that many visitors already impressed with the NAVEXPO event will have also noticed the 'cluster' mentality which sees major working co-operation amongst the 270 marine and vessel service companies in the port harbour's dock area which provide direct employment to almost 3,000 people.

Hailed by all as a tremendous success, this inaugural expo is sure to be a forerunner for many more events in years to come and, with glowing reports from exhibitors and visitors alike, NAVEXPO looks set to become an important annual calendar date for everyone involved in all sectors of the maritime industry.

The following photo roundup gives a taste of the vast range of equipment and services that were on display at the Lorient event:

NAVEXPO roundup



MAXIPRON: The new aluminium Maxipron, built by the Ocea shipyard, is to be a multi purpose vessel but one of its duties will be to transport fish from nearby small islands and village ports to the main fish auction in Lorient.



VARIETY: The Bernard Shipyard is one of the most important in France and produces a diverse range of vessels.

