

## Singapore players excel at Seatrade awards



Jurong Shipyard representatives with the trophy after the company won the Offshore Yard award at the Seatrade Asia 2009 in Shanghai

Singapore companies shone at the Seatrade Asia Awards 2009 in Shanghai - among them rig-builder Jurong Shipyard, which won the Offshore Yard award, and PSA, which won the Container Terminal award.

'Jurong Shipyard is honoured to receive the Seatrade Offshore Yard award,' said Wong Weng Sun, president of Jurong Shipyard's parent Sembcorp Marine. 'It is testimony to the yard's strong track record and proven capabilities in delivering quality and innovative offshore and rig-building solutions to the oil and gas industry.'

Meanwhile, Ecospec - which burst on to the scene this year with its CSNOx system to cut greenhouse gas and exhaust pollutant emissions from ships - beat established players such as Evergreen Line and Orient Overseas Container Line to win the Environment Protection award.

'We are honoured to receive the award,' said Ecospec managing director and founder Chew Hwee Hong. 'This is a monumental achievement for a humble local green technology company that was founded a mere eight years ago.'

The gala awards night on 25 June, attended by more than 500 shipping industry players, was capped off with the Seatrade Lifetime Achievement award going to Orient Overseas (International) chairman C C Tung.

Mr Tung was chairman of The Hong Kong Shipowners' Association from 1993-1995 and chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce from 1999-2001. He is currently a member of the Hong Kong Port Development Council and Hong Kong Logistics Development Council. Under his stewardship, container line OOCL has emerged as one of the world's best-run liner companies.

China's rising prominence in shipping was also seen in Cosco Group president and CEO Wei Jiafu claiming the Personality of the Year award.

The award acknowledges an industry personality who has had a high profile and has been in the news over the past 12 months. The shipping industry has followed every word of Capt Wei in recent months as it tries to steer itself out of a downturn.

He was also honoured with the Connecticut Maritime Association's prestigious Commodore Award earlier this year.

Also in the limelight was the Deal of the Year, in which Jiangsu Rongsheng Heavy Industries won the right to build a dozen 400,000dwt very large ore carriers for Brazilian mining giant Vale. The ships are the largest to be built in China and the order is China's largest yet.

'The Seatrade Asia Awards reflect shipping excellence right across Asia,' said Seatrade chairman Christopher Hayman. 'The winners as well as the finalists have demonstrated a commitment to best practices in their respective sectors that is a credit to the Asian shipping community.'

The next Seatrade Asia Awards will be held in Singapore on April 26, 2010.