



Technology is a key driver of Korean Register's growth.

Established in 1960, the Korean Register of Shipping (KR) – IACS member and one of the world's leading classification societies – continues to grow and develop. Its international reputation for quality, technical excellence and customer service is well deserved and demonstrated by the continued growth and internationalisation of its fleet in 2009.

In 2008, KR's fleet grew by 5.4 million gt (132 ships) to reach an all-time record of 34.7 million gt (2373 ships) in total. This amounts to approximately an 18% increase in tonnage from the previous year.

Technology is a key driver of growth. Major technology achievements in 2008 are

a) Release of SeaTrust – CSR software Version 3

KR has released the third version of its highly successful SeaTrust – CSR software for applying IACS Common Structural Rules for Bulk Carriers and Tankers. The new version offers improvements to the already successful software and has received good reviews from the major shipyards and designers who are already using the product.

b) Other major R & D Projects

- Hull Structure Engineering for FPSO
- Development of ISTAS Version 5
- A Study on the Development of the Emission Reduction System in the Ship Main Engine using Realtime Meteorological Information

c) New and Renewable Energy

In 2008, KR successfully undertook a project funded by the Ministry of Knowledge and Economy to establish a certification system for wind turbines in Korea and has published technical guidelines for wind turbines becoming the third classification society to publish such a document. KR is also involved in a four-year project to establish a certification scheme for wind turbine performance test with the Korea Institute of Materials Science. KR also will take part in a project to develop 5MW offshore system over the next four years.

Ocean energy is a sustainable energy source in the form of ocean wave, current, tidal, ocean thermals, etc. In Korea, there is a plan to develop 254 MW tidal plant by 2009 and by 2015, 812 MW tidal plant, one of the biggest tidal plants in the world. As a member of Ocean Energy Technical Committee (IEC TC114), KR has been working to develop guidelines for an ocean energy converter and carrying out related research. KR is also carrying out research to develop the rules for a fuel cell system for ships.

d) Development of Naval Ship Standards and Technology

Since 2001, a consortium composed of KR, Korean Navy, Defense Acquisition Program Administration and relevant Korean shipbuilders have been working to develop new technical standards for the design and construction of warships. As a result, a total of 73 new standards and 24 associated drawings have been developed in 2008.

The society takes its international involvement extremely seriously which is partly the reason why it is enjoying such strong international growth. Working on behalf of the Korean government, KR has contributed to the IMO's continuing work on goal-based standards and this has included staging a series of seminars and workshops to gather feedback from a range of ship design and other experts. At the same time, it is reaching out to other communities and has established two very successful regional committees in Greece (KR Hellenic Committee) and in London (KR European Committee). Both committees meet annually to debate a range of issues focusing on improving quality, safety standards and customer service.

KR has undertaken its IACS chairmanship from Det Norske Veritas (DNV) from 1 July 2008 through the nomination and election of Mr. Oh Kong-gyun, Chairman & CEO of KR, as Chairman of IACS. During its chairmanship, KR has been endeavoring to make certain IACS' continuous contribution to maritime safety and environment protection with the themes of Promotion of class image, quality shipbuilding, and clean environment.

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Notes to editors

The Korean Register of Shipping is an IACS member classification society established in 1960 with the purpose of promoting safety of life, property and the protection of the marine environment. KR currently holds the chairmanship of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)