

# NEWSLETTER



## Hydrodynamic Test Laboratories for Undersea Defence Development

ICE Marine Design recently attended the Undersea Defence Technology (UDT 2026) event in London, represented by CEO Steinar Draegebo and Business Development Director Jason Nunn.

As part of this engagement, ICE made industry contacts aware

of the availability of its “moth-balled” hydrodynamic testing facilities at ICEPRONAV in Galați, Romania. The facilities comprise one of Europe’s largest deepwater towing tanks and a German-designed cavitation tunnel located within purpose-built laboratory buildings at ICEPRONAV’s

established engineering site, shown in the aerial image.

The laboratories were previously used for naval and commercial testing and research programmes, including by major defence contractors. The facilities remain intact and could be returned to operational use by parties that may see strategic value in acquiring large-scale hydrodynamic testing facilities through a cooperation or purchase arrangement.



*Aerial view of ICEPRONAV's engineering site in Galați, Romania, adjacent to the Danube.*

Further information:  
[communications@icedesign.info](mailto:communications@icedesign.info)

ICEPRONAV Hydrodynamic Laboratories overview:

[DOWNLOAD](#)

## Technical Design Review Meetings in Galați

Recently, ICE Marine Design Group hosted technical design review meetings at its engineering centre in Galați, with representatives from Nevesbu, an established Netherlands-based naval architecture and marine engineering company with a long track record in complex vessel design.

Over two days, engineering and project teams met in person at ICEPRONAV Engineering SRL to review design development and address key matters. The sessions enabled direct coordination across disciplines and supported progress into the next phase of work.

The meetings provided a valuable forum for exchange

and alignment between project teams as the project continues.



*Representatives from Nevesbu with ICE's senior management and project teams during technical design review meetings at ICEPRONAV, Galați.*

## An ICEPRONAV Alumnus with Success in Canada

We continue our 60th anniversary highlights of ship designers who, with solid professional experience at ICEPRONAV, went on to successful careers elsewhere in the marine industry.



**Valentin Gheoca** joined ICE in 2007 as a Junior Outfitting Engineer, building on an early foundation in ship design and construction. He developed a strong technical base, working across complex offshore and naval projects, including FPSOs, self-elevating platforms and naval vessels, gaining a comprehensive understanding of core ship design principles.

He later progressed into project management, contributing to major international programmes, including a compact drillship for Brazil, a well maintenance vessel for Japan, and a cruise vessel for Germany. In this role, he developed his leadership capabilities while also supporting improvements in planning, scheduling and execution processes.

He then moved into estimating, gaining broader commercial insight and strengthening his client-facing experience. Together, these roles provided a well-rounded foundation across technical, delivery and commercial aspects of ship design.

Valentin joined Vancouver Shipyards in 2020 as Senior Project Manager for Detail Design, before progressing to Director, Detail Design in 2021. Now Director, Functional Engineering, he leads a team of around 200 engineers working on some of Canada's most complex ship design programmes, including Polar and Multi-Purpose Icebreaker projects. We wish Valentin continued success in his career in the international marine industry.

### FROM OUR PROJECT PORTFOLIO: FSRU TOSCANA

Conversion of LNG Carrier "Golar Frost" to a Floating Storage Regasification and Unloading vessel, permanently moored with a single point mooring (SPM) external turret, offshore Livorno, Italy.

#### ICE's Scope of Work:

- Turret Interface Structure
- Topside Module Support
- ULS and FLS Analyses

**Year:** 2008 - 2010

**Client / Shipyard:** Moss Maritime / Drydocks World Dubai



Image Courtesy: OLT Offshore LNG Toscana



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With a 60-year track record and an annual output having exceeded 700,000 professional engineering man-hours, the International Contract Engineering (ICE) Group is one of Europe's largest independent ship design consultancies. We provide high-calibre multi-discipline design services to yards and owners in the commercial shipping, defence and offshore energy industries, ranging from conceptual studies and Class drawings to detail design and production information. We cover a full range of naval architecture and marine engineering disciplines such as hydrodynamics, structural, mechanical, piping, electrical, instrumentation, outfit and HVAC. Our experience includes gas carriers, passenger vessels, navy and coast guard ships, chemical tankers, drill ships, FSO/FPSOs and a range of other vessels. We also have available proprietary designs that can be adapted to clients' requirements.

With our head office in the Isle of Man and engineering facilities in Romania and Croatia, we provide high quality design and engineering at competitive prices.