

NEWSLETTER



ICE Chairman to Moderate Session at Gastech 2026

ICE Marine Design will again participate in Gastech, the world's leading conference for marine-related gas technology, this year held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 14 to 17 September. Steinar Draegebo, Chairman of ICE Marine Design, will moderate a session on "Pilot Plants & New Technologies", forming part of Gastech's "Low Carbon Solutions" Technical Programme.

The session will feature papers on carbon capture technologies, including compact modular systems, mobile pilot plants and technology for offshore production facilities. It will also address challenges such as limited deck space, equipment weight, vessel motion and integration with existing systems.

The subjects covered are directly relevant to ICE's offshore engineering experience. The ICE Group has contributed to around 50 offshore floater projects, including conversions, new construction and technical studies involving FPSOs and floating gas facilities.

Steinar has attended several previous Gastech events as a delegate, moderator or presenter. At Gastech 2026, he will be joined by Cristian Antache, Senior Project Manager. They will use the opportunity to meet clients, partners and technical specialists from across the international energy sector.



[View the full session programme and presentation details](#)

Master's Students Gain First-Hand Marine Design Experience



Three first-year master's students in Naval Architecture with colleagues from ICEPRONAV's Initial Design Department.

Three first-year Master's students in Naval Architecture recently completed a five-week internship at ICEPRONAV Engineering in Galați, Romania.

The placement gave them valuable insight into professional ship design. It also helped them connect their academic studies with practical experience.

Focused placements such as this support knowledge sharing between experienced engineers and future naval architects. They also introduce students to the skills and processes involved in marine design.

[Read more about the students' experience within ICEPRONAV's Initial Design Department](#)

An ICEPRONAV Alumnus Supporting Floating Offshore Energy

As part of our 60th anniversary series celebrating former ICEPRONAV colleagues with successful international careers, in this issue of our newsletter we feature Cristian Bran.

Cristian's interest in ship design began at school, when an ICEPRONAV engineer spoke to his class about the profession. The experience inspired him to study Naval Architecture at the University of Galați before joining ICEPRONAV's Structural Research team in 1992.

Over the next ten years, Cristian developed expertise in hull structural strength. He contributed to research projects and created software tools for the Hull Design team. He also remembers learning from experienced colleagues, sharing

ideas and enjoying a strong team spirit. These experiences helped shape his approach to working with others.

In 2001, Cristian joined Bureau Veritas as a Project Structural Engineer. His responsibilities expanded across project management, tanker condition assessment and business development. He is now Market Leader for Offshore Oil & Gas Floating Units at BV's head office in Paris. In 2012, he also helped establish the Bureau Veritas Structural Analysis team in Galați together with Dr.-Ing. Jean Popovici, another prominent ICEPRONAV alumnus.

Cristian's career shows how experience gained at ICEPRONAV can support progression to senior roles across the

international marine industry. That opportunity is even greater today, as ICEPRONAV's role within ICE Group gives its engineers experience of delivering high-quality technical services to major customers with demanding requirements worldwide.



FROM OUR PROJECT PORTFOLIO: DOUBLE-ACTING CONTAINER/CARGO SHIP FOR ARCTIC OPERATIONS (MS NORILSKIY NICKEL)

Scope of Work: Detail Design and Production Information for Hull and Outfitting for a Double-Acting Arctic Container Vessel

Client/Shipyard: Aker Ostsee, Aker Finnyards

Owner: Mining and metallurgical company "Norilsk Nickel"

Year: 2004-05



ENGINEERING CERTAINTY

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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.