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Working Behind the Scenes

THE OFFSHORE INDUSTRY'S SUPPLY CHAIN COMPRISES A LOT OF COMPANIES. EVEN THE TINIEST WEAK LINK IN THIS CHAIN CAN RESULT IN dangerous consequences, so no matter what the size, each part of the chain is important for the success of any offshore project.

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Men Techniek is a young family business located in Rotterdam. Since 2009, the company has grown from a small family concern to a business with around twenty permanent employees and a large group of regular subcontractors. The company specialises in the repair and maintenance of vessels, cranes, pipelines, pumps and appendages and many large shipyards and ship owners, such as Damen, Broekman, Boskalis and BigLift shipping have found their way to the young company.

We Do What We Do

"For the offshore industry," Lucien Tuinfort, owner of Men Techniek, says, "our projects cover an extensive range of activities, such as sea fastenings; (de) mobilisation; repairs and maintenance on vessels, pumps, cranes, carousels and pontoons; exchanging and realigning pumps, gearboxes, motors and appendages and installing piping, power cables and hydraulic hoses. On request, we also carry out a variety of types of NDT inspections. We can take care of projects on site or in our workshop, where we can perform work such as dismantling and assembling but also the production of smaller pieces."

Taking Over Concerns

"As a family business," he continues, "we attach a great deal of importance to reliability, speed of service and, above all, taking over the concerns of our clients. And,

something that has always been our core value, we do what we promise, or, as we say in Rotterdam 'Geen woorden, maar daden' (actions speak louder than words)." Services are performed by experienced, motivated and qualified personnel. Speed, flexibility and precision come together 365 days a year, seven days a week and 24 hours a day. "We consider ourselves as a service company, working behind the scenes, but always with the best solution in mind", Mr Tuinfort states.

Working Hard

Recently, the company moved into a new workshop, with more space to work and with extra storage facilities. This move is proof of the stable growth of the company so far. "In 2009," Mr Tuinfort states, "I started at Men Techniek, with hardly any money in the bank. It was a matter of working hard and gaining the trust of our customers. Working hard is still part of our work ethos." Despite its growth, the company is still a lean and hands-on organisation with short lines of communication. Mr Tuinfort: "Although I have to spend a lot of time at the office, I also often pick up the welder when extra hands are needed."

International Standards

Men Techniek attaches great importance to its responsibility to perform work in a good, safe and environmentally correct way. For this reason, the company's business processes have been documented and implemented according to the requirements of the international standards and requirements ISO 9001 'Quality management systems', VCA/SCC 'SHE Checklist Contractors' and ISO 3834-2 'Quality Requirements for fusion welding of metallic materials'. "In our industry, the right certificates are essential", Mr Tuinfort explains. "Our aim is to continuously improve our performance. A periodical assessment by a notified body helps us to be aware of how we are operating and how to keep on improving."

Positive Attitude

"Whether we are talking about our permanent employees or flexible workers on call-up, all of them have extensive specialised experience within their field of work. As a company, we are VCA-certified, and so are all of our individual employees. Besides this, we are also a certified welding company and a registered training company for apprentices. But it is not only a matter of certificates. Men Techniek's employees stand out not just for their craftsmanship, but also for their commitment to service. Working with our customers to find solutions and taking over their concerns in a flexible way are our key values. This positive attitude is something I am really proud of."

i. www.mentechniek.nl



Lucien Tuinfort (r), owner of Men Techniek, with his partner and General Manager Emmy Tuinfort (l).