# LIGHTWEIGHT RESEARCH FOR MARITIME APPLICATIONS AT THE LBF

Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF





# Fraunhofer LBF

## 4 Research Divisions





# Fraunhofer LBF in Darmstadt

#### Darmstadt City site







# Facts & figures

Annual statement 2017

### Staff

- 396 at Fraunhofer LBF
- 53 at TU Darmstadt

Budget 2017 28.19 Mio €

### **Facilities**

- Office facilities: ca. 6.300 m<sup>2</sup>
- Lab facilities: ca. 11.560 m<sup>2</sup>













# **Promotions and Master theses 2016**

15 PhD & 47 Master theses





## Markets

- Automotive and supply industry
- Rail vehicle industry
- Aviation
- Shipbuilding
- Mechanical and plant engineering
- Special machine construction
- Power engineering
- Chemical industry









# Why shipbuilding?

#### Key technologies as defined in the WATERBORNE SRA

- Smart and Autonomous ships
  - Internal and external monitoring tools
  - **New sensors** and real-time collection of ship parameters
  - Integrated safety and security systems
- Fire resistance and prevention
  - Use of new materials
- Innovative and smart materials and combinations
  - More extensive use of composites
  - New advanced composites (fire resistant)
- Increased vessel survivability
  - Damage stability (tools to evaluate hull resistance)
  - Damage stability (e.g. watertight integrity)
    - Test and validation of monitoring system



# Why shipbuilding?



https://magazine.damen.com/editors-choice/composite-materials-for-the-next-generation-of-ship-owners/

#### Lightweighting has some drawbacks

- More sensitive to damages and degradations
- More sensitive to noise and vibration (NVH)

- ightarrow Health and Usage Monitoring, SHM
- ightarrow Active noise and vibration control



# Systems-based research

Examples





# **Lightweight Structures**

through optimised short fibre reinforced plastics ...





# **Development of Flame-Retardant Plastics**





# **Plastics Flame Retardancy: Goals and Tasks**

- Characterization and assessment of flame-retardant plastics (thermoplastics, thermosets, elastomers, composites)
- Synthesis, development, and optimization of new flame retardants and plastic formulations
- Processing of flame-retardant polymers and optimization of the formulations
- Research and development projects for fire-resistant plastics or flame retardants and formulations as well as testing

Intermediary between producers of flame retardants and compounders through to the OEMs



# Systems-based research

Examples





# **Design, manufacturing and test of sensorized composite panels** (prepreg autoclave)





# Verification and Qualification of sensor systems with nondestructive testing





# Flight test of a composite panel with 50 fiber optic as well as piezo sensors







# Systems-based research

## Examples





# Funded projects in context of shipbuilding (finished)

Fokus on vibration control





# **Example Aktos**

## **Control of torsional vibrations in drive trains**

- Validation in a motor yacht
  - V6-motor with 441 and 449 kW, resp.
  - Gearbox in pod design
  - Only one drive train with active measure
- Excitation through the propeller









# **Example Aktos**

## **Control of torsional vibrations in drive trains**





# Funded projects in context of shipbuilding (MARTEC)





# **Smart Propulsion Systems (SmartPS)**

- Design and validation of an energy harvesting concept
  - Energy recovery from torsional vibrations
  - Damping of the torsional vibrations
- Strategy for the efficient operation of the drivetrain under rough sea
- Experimental analysis and system validation



# Funded projects in context of shipbuilding (MARTEC)

## **Reliable and Autonomous Monitoring system for Maritime Structures**

- Monitoring concepts for maritime structures to optimise maintenance and to increase safety
- Accelerating the implementation of composite structures in shipbuilding through monitoring of loads and failures with smart sensors
- Increased efficiency through new designs and advanced manufacturing
- Transfer to offshore applications





# **Reliable and Autonomous Monitoring system**





## **Rudder shaft solution**









# **Hull solution**

## FBG sensors placement in the CreeYacht



## Alternatives

## piezoelectric layers











