



## Schat-Harding strengthens European service network

### Press release

LEADING lifeboat and davit manufacturer Schat-Harding has significantly strengthened its European service network with the acquisition of major independent service company Willem Pot BV. Rotterdam-based Willem Pot is the largest independent lifeboat and davit service company in the world and provides service for all types of lifeboats, hook and davits from its 2,000 sq m workshop in Rotterdam.

Ove Røssland, ceo of Schat-Harding, says, "We have had a long and good business relationship with Willem Pot acting as a service partner for us. We believe that by taking them into the global service network of Schat-Harding we will strengthen the service we can provide to owners of all types of equipment worldwide, helping owners to ensure that all the lifesaving equipment is always properly maintained. Joining the Schat-Harding group also brings significant benefits to the staff of Willem Pot, with support from the SHEILD database, improved career opportunities and training."

Larry Nederlof, chairman of Willem Pot, says, "In a global environment like shipping it makes sense for both our customers and our staff to be part of a global network. Willem Pot and the 34 very good people who work for us have built up a good reputation with shipowners and lifeboat manufacturers from all over the world. We all look forward to deploying that expertise and experience within the Schat-Harding umbrella, improving service by using the global outreach of Schat-Harding. This move will help shipowners to comply with MSC1206 and to always use OEM approved facilities when servicing their vital lifeboat and davit equipment"

Schat-Harding's owned and authorised service network now covers 60 countries and deploys over 320 people to ensure LSA systems are correctly serviced.

Schat-Harding group is the global market leader in marine life-saving systems - lifeboats, davits and winches, all integrated in a total safety solution from the design of a vessel to the end of its lifetime. Ship owners, ship operators, offshore operators and shipyards operating everywhere are its clients. Brands now supported by Schat-Harding include Watercraft, Viking Marine, Waterman, Fiskars, Davit-Company, MASECO, Watercraft America, William Mills Marine, Schat, Harding, Mulder & Rijke and the Beiyang Boatbuilding Co. The group is also engaged in environmentally friendly underwater cleaning and inspections of ships' hulls using CleanHull, a unique ROV technology.

Schat-Harding employs 800 employee's world wide. The group operates in 10 countries, with 15 offices and its service network consists of more than 60 world wide service stations. Its head office is located in Rosendal, Norway.

Umoe Schat-Harding is a member of Norway's Umoe group.

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