INTRODUCTION

Before you lay the Proceedings of the 16-th International HISWA Symposium on Yacht Design and Construction.

Once again this Symposium has been organized under the auspices of the Dutch HISWA national Association of Watersport Industries, the METS Marine Equipement Trade Show and the Delft University of Technology, the Department of Maritime Technology. This time however it is supported by the RINA, the Royal Institute of Naval Architects from the United Kingdom, to broaden the public we hope to reach.

The Organizing Committee tries each time to collect an interesting selection of papers presented by experts in the field of Yacht Design and Construction who are willing to share their knowledge with those working or interested in the yachting world. She aims in particular at designers and the people from the yards as well as at researchers. Besides these professionals the Symposium aims at students who are interested in yachts and who may constitute the professionals of the future.

This time the main focus is on very large yachts and some particular problems encountered in their design and construction. The Organizing Committee is very grateful to those who have been willing to prepare a paper and the present it at the Symposium. It is a tedious and very time consuming exercise and those who have ever done know to appreciate it! I would also like to express my gratitude to the members of the Paper Committee, i.e. Arie Kraayenveld, Jelle Gerritsma, Gerard Dijkstra, Richard Birmingham, Frans Maas and Michale Steenhoff. They perform their contribution somewhat outside the spotlights, but their input and efforts contribute significantly to the success of the Symposium!

Finally I would like to mention that from December 2002 the papers presented will be available from our own HISWA Symposium website, www.hiswasymposium.com or the website of the RINA, www.rina.uk.com. On these sides they will be available in full color, if applicable.

I hope you enjoy the HISWA Symposium and I hope to meet you there. And the next time!

Dr.ir. Jan Alexander Keuning
Chairman Symposium Organizing Committee