

# More Ecospeed protection for roro ferry after excellent results

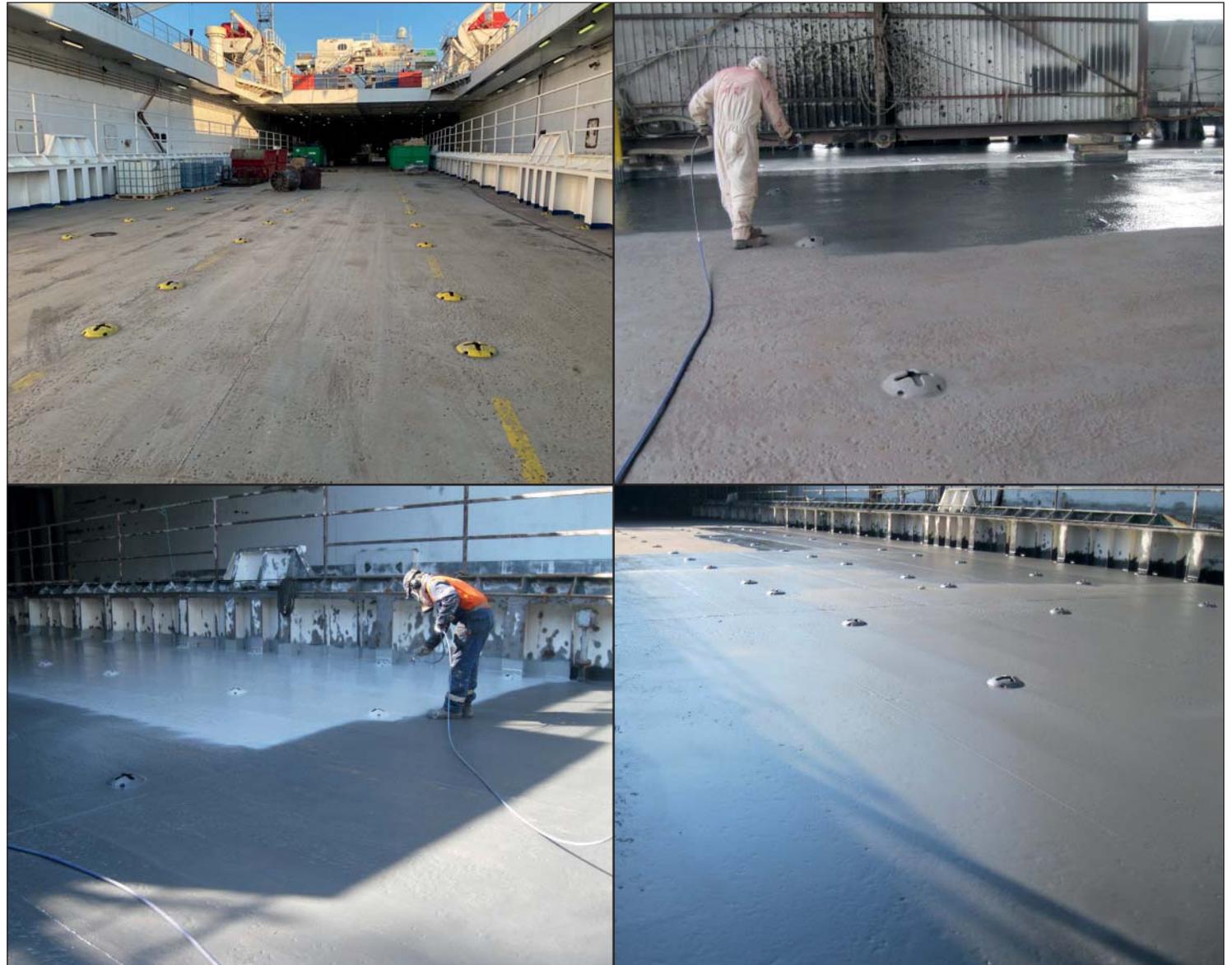
In 2019 Finnish shipping company Eckerö coated the open cargo deck of their roro passenger ferry *Finbo Cargo* with Ecospeed. This was done to protect the deck against damage from cars and cargo. One year later the deck was still in excellent condition, in strong contrast to previous years. As a result, Eckerö decided to coat the ice belt and most of the hull with Ecospeed to offer it the same lasting protection.

“We coated the weather deck with good result,” says Mr. Olsén, Technical Manager with Eckerö Group. “After one year in traffic and many thousands of cargo tons there are no failures to the coating at all.”

Eckerö Line was founded in 1994 and is part of the Eckerö Group. They offer reliable and high-quality cargo services on the Helsinki-Tallinn-Helsinki route. As a Finnish shipping company, they provide the Finnish export industry a reliable and regular contact to the European market and ensure that consumer goods are available to the whole of Finland.

## Lasting protection against ice

*M/S Finbo Cargo* was upgraded to an Ice Class program this year. “We decided quite fast that we needed a coating that we knew could handle the ice conditions in the Baltic Sea,” says Mr. Olsén.

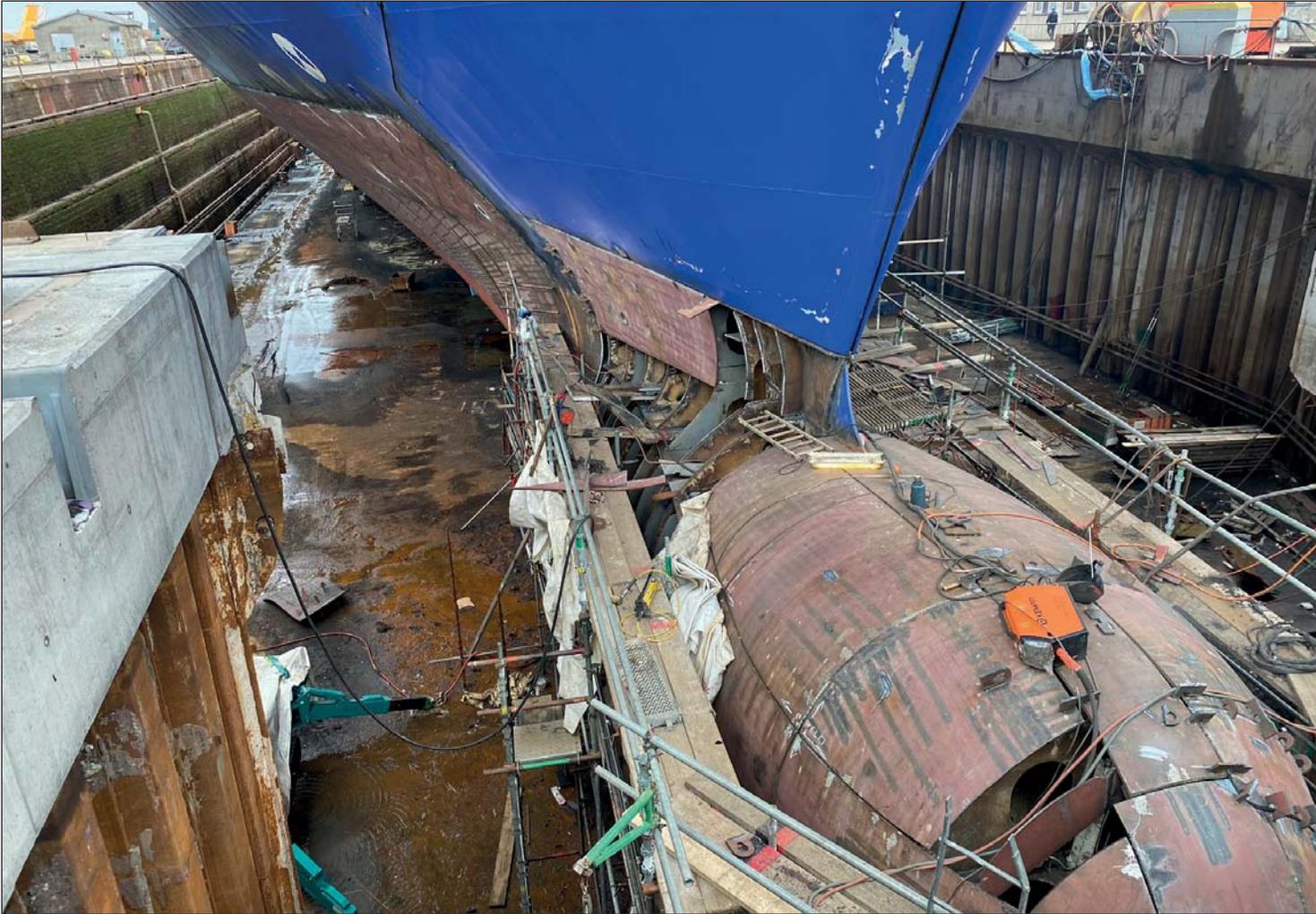


*Top left: Open cargo deck of roro passenger ferry Finbo Cargo. The deck needed extra protection from damage occurring from traffic and cargo handling. Top right and bottom left: Application of Ecospeed in two identical layers to prevent damage from occurring. Bottom right: No repainting will be required.*

Ecospeed’s resistance against ice is ideal to complement the ship’s new structural ice protection.

For over 10 years several ships coated with

Ecospeed have been sailing the most northern parts of the Baltic Sea during the winter season when they are completely frozen. Despite the frequent impact of large floes, none of these ships have



*M/S Finbo Cargo was upgraded to an Ice Class this year.*



*The bulbous bow and other areas prone to ice impact needed extra protection.*

required more than just a few touch-ups during their drydock visits. The evidence these dockings gave of Ecospeed's durability and protection against harsh winter conditions convinced the owners of *M/S Finbo Cargo* that the coating was ideal for their ferry.

#### **Easy application, no repaints**

During the busy tourist season ferries need to be sailing frequently so the best time for drydocking is the low season when there is less cargo and fewer passengers. "We decided to choose a system



*Application of Ecospeed can easily be geared to the schedule of the yard.*



*The durability of Ecospeed makes the planning of future dockings far easier.*

that initially costs a bit more but in the end saves us a lot in maintenance cost," continues Mr. Olsén. "That is an important factor for us since our dockings are mainly done during winter in bad weather conditions when the quality of repair work to the paint system cannot be guaranteed." For this reason it was essential to reduce the necessary maintenance and paint work during future drydockings.



*Most of the underwater hull was coated with Ecospeed to make sure no repaint would be needed.*



*The rudders were also given the same lasting protection.*

The initial application of the Ecospeed underwater hull coating can easily be geared to the schedule of the yard. This flexibility can be achieved with Ecospeed because the coating has versatile application potentials. Either of the two required layers can be applied at any time during the building process, even when there is a winter period or serious bad weather between applications.

The durability of Ecospeed makes the planning of future dockings far easier for the shipowner and the shipyard. No repainting beyond minor touch-ups will be required. These touch-ups can easily be done during a short visit.

### **Conclusion**

The application on *M/S Finbo Cargo* clearly demonstrates that Ecospeed is not only the best option for the underwater hull of a ship but can also be used for a wide range of other purposes. The result is always the same: a lasting, non-toxic protection against corrosion, cavitation and even mechanical damage. ■



**[www.subind.net](http://www.subind.net)**

Subsea Industries NV

Phone: + 32 3 213 5318

Fax: + 32 3 213 5321

[info@subind.net](mailto:info@subind.net)