

# SRN

## Ship Repair Newsletter

**Published weekly by:**

**A&A Thorpe**

**131a Furtherwick Road**

**Canvey Island**

**Essex SS8 7AT**

**United Kingdom**

**Email: [shipaat@aol.com](mailto:shipaat@aol.com)**

**Tel: +44 (0) 1268 511300**

**Fax: +44 (0) 1268 510467**

**Contact: Alan Thorpe or Sue Morson**

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## Shipyards

**CAMMELL LAIRD:** The confusion over the name Cammell Laird, which has been used by yards in Birkenhead (UK) and Gibraltar, has been solved. From now the Birkenhead yard will be called Cammell Laird Shiprepairers & Shipbuilders and the former Cammell Laird (Gibraltar) will change its name to Gibdock. For a number of years, each yard has been owned separately.



Joe Corvelli (pictured left), chief executive of Gibdock said: “Nobody is more proud of Cammell Laird’s heritage than us, but this is about ensuring that there is clarity among customers on the skills and services offered by this yard. Our recent references and the high number of returning customers show what can be achieved by focusing on commercial work in this strategic location. “Ship repair is a business built on close contacts between the ship owner and the service provider. We held the Cammell Laird torch, and I believe we did the name proud, but the last thing needed in such a tight knit market is any confusion over branding. Now is the time for Gibdock to emerge in its own right.”

“We feel that the name Gibdock reflects our yard’s strategic location at the entrance of the Mediterranean, but also emphasises the unique role the dockyard plays in the local community and in local industry. It says where we are, but also expresses the investment both we and our workers make in this yard. Our management, our ownership and those commitments do not change with this transaction.”

Avoiding deviation from the Gibraltar Strait trading lanes and centred in a deepwater port, the Gibraltar yard has sustained its performance in what Mr Corvelli termed “testing” times.

“In 2009, we have seen record levels of business going through the yard, and Gibdock is booked well into 2010. We believe that our focus on redelivering vessels on time in a market where every day counts is demonstrated by our high volume of returning customers. Recent references include cruise ships, ferries, catamarans, containerships, tankers, bulk carriers, dredgers and offshore vessels.”

Mr Corvelli said that Gibdock’s Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems had been recognised through OHSAS18001:2007 certification, while its commitment to the environment was denoted by the award of ISO14001:2004 accreditation for its Environmental Management System.

“Also setting Gibdock apart from competing regional yards is our Quality Management System, which has been accredited by Lloyd’s Register to ISO9001:2008, recognised as matching the highest global standards for the repair of ships and offshore vessels,” said Mr Corvelli. “Gibdock considers its flexible and highly skilled labour force to be its primary asset. Our team of bilingual project managers and craftspeople are among the most experienced worldwide in commercial ship repair. Our planning, control and monitoring required to achieve best performance in each and every project is based on what the customer wants, not what suits us.”

As one of the largest employers in Gibraltar, Mr Corvelli said Gibdock also took responsibility for sustained skills development through its four year on-site apprenticeship and training programme. Gibdock is also certified under the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, indicating its commitment to enhancing dockyard and ship security.

The yard features two wharves (300 m x 9.5 m and 435 m x 11 m) and three drydocks, with the largest, Drydock 1, capable of handling vessels of up to Panamax size. Mr Corvelli said that Gibdock's commitment to ship repair in Gibraltar could be seen through recent investments in new workshop roofing, new crane rails for Drydocks 2 and 3 and new blasting and painting equipment.

John Syvret, chief executive of Cammell Laird Shiprepairers & Shipbuilders Ltd said: "The Gibraltar and Birkenhead yards have enjoyed a good commercial relationship in the past and I am sure this will continue in the future. I wish Joe and his team every success. It became abundantly clear that growing confusion over the company name required resolution. This has now been resolved and we look forward to growing the business and the brand by delivering cost effective quality solutions and services to our customers. Our foundations have been built on trust, and this ethos will be the corner stone of our success in the future."