

In May 1999 the internal surface of nr. 7 port doublebottom saltwaterballasttank has been hydroblasted by coating specialist Messrs. Van Zonderen with a stated pressure at the gun of 10.000 psi. Remainings of previous coatings and rust were sufficiently removed, leaving a rough steelsurface. The tank was cleaned from water and debris and was dried afterwards, using de-humidifiers. Tankcoating test-patches were applied by various paintsuppliers in nr. 7 port WB tank. The above Customer applied one testpatch as follows:

First coat : Easyprime 75 - 100 micron dft.

Second coat : Easyflex 200 - 300 micron dft.

Between first and second coat a stripe coat with Easyflex has been applied.

Application was carried out with thickness control based on volume of paint used. Due to the extreme roughness approximately 30 percent more paint was used compared with what would be needed on a smooth surface.

The condition of the test-patch has been examined in October 1999, and was found good.

Resulting from the above, all waterballasttanks and void-spaces of PLV Solitaire were treated as above. May 2002 a second examination was held and the condition of the coating was considered good.

Lloyds Register decided to extend the yearly tank inspection to a two and a half-year cycle.

Allseas is very pleased with the professional performance of the applicator Messrs. van Zonderen. Both on the labour side as well as on the equipment side they showed a high performance and they managed to executed this job while Solitaire was in full production.

*Yours Faithfully,
Allseas Engineering BV.*

*Leo Stobbe
Head Technical Department*

