

Press release

For immediate release:

Hempel wins Sweboat's Environmental Award 2023

Hempel's biocide-free antifouling paint for yachts, Hempaspeed TF, has won Sweboat's Environmental Award.



Hempaspeed TF, Hempel's biocide-free coating solution for yachts, was awarded Sweboat's Environmental Award at a ceremony at the Gothenburg Boat Show on Friday 3 February. The hull coating was recognised by Sweboat as a more sustainable alternative to traditional antifoulings.

Sweboat's Environmental Award was presented by Mats Eriksson, CEO of Sweboat and Göran Gross at Dyvik Marina to Mattias Borg, Hempel's Area Sales Manager, Yacht - Sweden and Joakim Sandgren, Hempel's Yacht Manager Northern Europe.



"Winning this prestigious award is not just a great recognition of our work, but also an acknowledgement that we are on the right path by striving for more sustainable solutions," says Joakim Sandgren, Hempel's Yacht Manager Northern Europe. "We would like to thank Sweboat for recognising Hempaspeed TF as a product making a significant contribution to the boating community and marine environment. Hempel is committed to driving change towards a more sustainable world."

Hempaspeed TF has all the qualities of a robust hard antifouling with an ultra-smooth finish and is suitable for use in all waters, making it a good match for pleasure boats, regatta sailing boats, racing boats and trailer boats, especially for areas where restrictions prohibit the use of biocides. Hempaspeed TF minimises growth and drag, is extremely easy to clean, with no risk of run-off contamination.

Hempel made a decision to innovate towards biocide-free products more than a decade ago and now offers complete biocide-free ranges for yacht customers, including Hempel's Ecopower, Hempaspeed TF and premium Silic One.

"Innovation and product development are required in order for the boating industry to become more sustainable. Environmentally harmful products must be replaced by new, more sustainable and at least as effective alternatives in order for us to bring the boat owners along for the ride," says Mats Eriksson, CEO of Sweboat. "Antifouling paints are used to reduce the growth of barnacles and other marine growth on boats' hulls, thereby minimising drag when travelling through water helping to reduce fuel usage and related CO₂ emissions."

Hempel has donated the 25,000 SEK prize money to the Swedish Sea Rescue Association:



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About Hempel

As a world-leading supplier of trusted coating solutions, Hempel is a global company with strong values, working with customers in the yacht, marine, decorative, infrastructure and energy industries. Hempel factories, R&D centres and stock points are established in every region.

Across the globe, Hempel's paints and coatings can be found in almost every country of the world. They protect and beautify buildings, infrastructure and other assets, and play an essential role in our customers' businesses. They help minimise maintenance costs, improve aesthetics and increase energy efficiency.

At Hempel, our purpose is to shape a brighter future with sustainable coating solutions. We firmly believe that we will succeed as a business only if we place sustainability at our heart. Not only is it the right thing to do, it will strengthen our competitive position, make ourselves more resilient and reduce our risk.

Hempel was founded in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1915. It is proudly owned by the Hempel Foundation, which ensures a solid economic base for the Hempel Group and supports cultural, social, humanitarian and scientific purposes around the world.

About Sea Rescue Society

Swedish Sea Rescue Society is involved in approximately 90 percent of all sea rescues in Sweden and receives no government funding. The Society is financed by membership fees, donations and voluntary work. It has 2.400 volunteer crew members, rescue services are always available 24 hours a day anywhere along the Swedish coast and on the major lakes.

About Sweboat:

Sweboat is an organization with approx. 400 companies as members. Their main task is to promote and protect common industry interests and make it easier to be a company working in the yachting industry. But, they also work to make it simple, safe and positive to own a boat and be on the lake. They are recognised as the industry's mouthpiece and work actively to highlight the importance and role of the industry and boating in society in general.

Sweboat's Environmental Award is awarded annually to a person, organization or company that has made a good and significant contribution to the environment linked to boating. Examples of this can be; 1. An environmental project/initiative 2. An invention that benefits the environment and/or environmental work 3. A simple effort with a big effect on the environment The prize sum is 25,000 and the prize has previously been awarded in 2019 to Optimist for the sea - an Optimist dinghy built, among other things, from plastic waste from the sea, and in 2020 to the Marine Environment Institute, which conveys knowledge between researchers, authorities and decision-makers. In 2021, Melissa Feldtman, environmental inspector in the municipality of Österåker, received the award for her efforts for environmental work in the boat industry, and in 2022 the award went to the Swedish Boating Union for its initiative, the Marine Environmental Conference.