

# Maintenance Dredging Management Plan in the "Basse-Loire" (France)



**Financed by:** GIE Dragages-Ports

**Client:** Dragages-Ports

**Date:** 2001 – 2002

**Budget:** € 75 000

**Location:** Nantes (France)

## Assignment:

Dragages Ports awarded Soresma-haecon a study to set up a decision making tool in order to manage the yearly maintenance dredging in the Basse-Loire estuary for the Ports of Nantes and Saint-Nazaire.

## Scope of Services:

- Inventory of environmental and dredging related items
- Hydraulic engineering
- Dredging expertise
- Maintenance dredging works
- Statistical processing

## Technical Description:

The Gie Dragages-Ports decided to build two new trailing suction hopper dredgers (TSHD) with a capacity of respectively 5,000 m<sup>3</sup> and 8,500 m<sup>3</sup>. Before the orders were placed, several tentative maintenance dredging programmes and tentative organisation schedules were submitted to the different port authorities.

In 2001, Soresma-haecon was involved in developing a feasible dredging programming decision making tool which allows a more sustainable dredging programming.



*Avant-port of Saint-Nazaire*

The decision making tool had to take into account the hydrological, the hydraulic and dredging parameters of the Basse-Loire estuary. Special attention was given to the seasonal variation of the environmental parameters in the broad Loire estuary. For the respective ports in the area (Port of Nantes, Port of Dunkerque, Port of Le Havre, Port of Bordeaux) a detailed inventory of relevant driving characteristics was collected.



*The TSHD "Samuel de Champlain" (Capacity = 8,500 m<sup>3</sup>)*



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