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**Asia-Pacific Region Moves Past Europe to Become World's Leading Naval Market**

**Bremerton, WA – March 18, 2011** – AMI International, market info partner for Experia Events' IMDEX 2011 Maritime Exhibition and Conference (Singapore 18-20 May 2011), has released its latest 20 Year Naval Market Forecast of the Asia-Pacific (A-P) region.

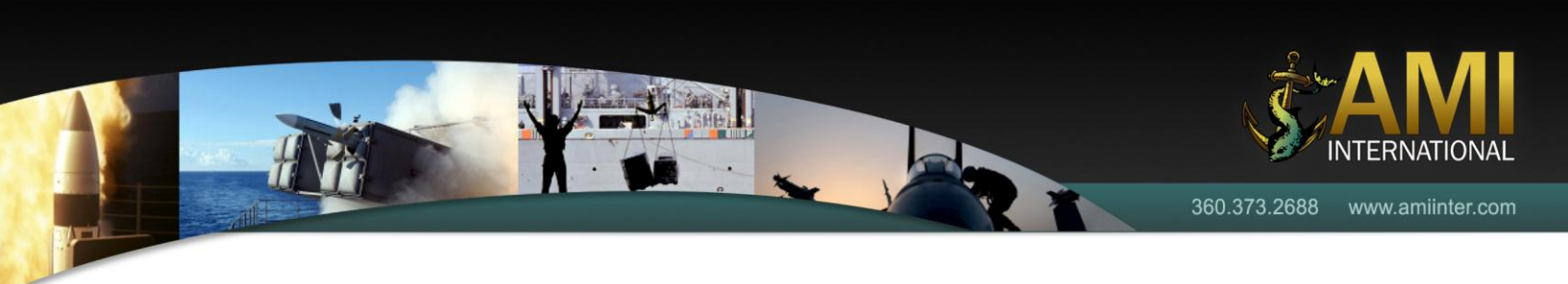
The report highlights that, despite declining naval budget forecasts for other parts of the world, notably Europe, A-P countries continue to show strong growth. AMI projects A-P sea services (including navies and coast guards) will acquire almost 900 newly built ships and submarines through 2030. This makes the future A-P naval market the world's largest over the next 20 years, as measured by the number of new ships to be built or bought.

Presenting at the recent *Naval Modernization in Southeast Asia* conference, organized by Singapore's S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), AMI VP of Advisory Services, Bob Nugent noted some of the drivers making the A-P a growing naval market.

"Asia-Pacific countries are continuing steady investments to build balanced portfolios of naval capabilities, rather than a frantic rush of one-dimensional spending that would mark some sort of naval arms race."

"This reflects a pattern AMI has observed in tracking the growth of naval power in the region over the past 25 years. Notable among recent naval programs in the A-P are larger aviation capable amphibious ships, modern conventionally powered submarines, increasingly sophisticated multipurpose surface combatants, and offshore patrol vessels optimized for EEZ security missions," Nugent observes.

In terms of market value, AMI forecasts the A-P region will invest more than US\$175B on new ships and equipment over the next two decades, moving past Europe to become the second largest naval market in the world, with only the United States set to spend more on new naval ships and related systems through 2030.



On business in the region, Guy Stitt, President of AMI, notes, “The number of new ship and submarine programs planned in the region over the coming decades represent significant opportunities for local and international defense companies. Shipbuilders and naval equipment manufacturers who invest to acquire early insight into this growing market will have a substantial competitive advantage.”

### **About AMI International**

AMI, based in Bremerton, Washington USA, is a leading provider of focused market analysis and consulting for naval, maritime security, and unmanned systems markets around the world. AMI tracks naval business opportunities for its worldwide customer base across 18 countries on 5 continents. AMI tracks market developments in over 70 countries that consistently invest in naval and maritime security capabilities.

AMI’s product line includes naval, missile and unmanned systems market research databases. Its flagship “Hot News” monthly naval market newsletter is considered a “must read” for key players in the industry. AMI maintains an active dialogue with senior sea service leaders, key decision-makers in the naval and defense industry, leading media covering the defense sector, and its network of international advisors and affiliates.