

These days the First Honorary Consul of Ukraine in the Netherlands Karel Burger Dirven visited MDEM office in Mykolayiv. Together with MDEM Director Olena he joined a regular Damen Emergency Management Team meeting online.

After the online meeting Olena Zhukova informed the honorary guest how the company provided safe work of employees during the full-scale armed aggression of russia against Ukraine. She noted that the company's team works from the Poland, Romania and western Ukraine, and told about the office damage from the rocket attack on the city.

Karel Burger Dirven shared his impressions: "A visit to MDEM "Marine Design Engineering Mykolayiv" in Mykolayiv.

MDEM of Damen Shipyards is engineering shipbuilding project. A successful cooperation of Ukraine and the Netherlands in business, also in wartime. With CEO Olena Zhukova I joined Damen's Emergency Management Team online meeting. MDEM has regular digital meetings with the head office in NL and their offices in Poland, Romania and Western Ukraine. More than three-quarters of the workforce, with their families, have been brought to safety to continue operations. Olena has remained at her post in Mykolayiv.



Mykolayiv was heavily shelled and hit by missiles.

All over this lovely town, windows are provisionally fixed as new attacks may follow. Behind the Damen MDEM office a rocket hit a building full. The pressure wave destroyed most of the MDEM's windows.





One of Damen MDEM colleagues, Volodomyr Kyselov, went to Ukrainian Armed Forces to defend his homeland. He was killed by a missile attack on his barracks. A great loss for his relatives, friends and colleagues. Eternal memory to the fallen Hero! Слава Україні! Героям слава!

What a strength and confidence from Olena Zhukova in the future of Mykolayiv and Ukraine. The country must be completely liberated after which displaced persons can and hopefully will return. I totally agree: Ukraine has great people and excellent and skilled engineers and shipbuilders.

Mykolayiv is a great and lovely city. Half of the population has not returned yet. It's the major shipbuilding and repair center of the Black Sea and Ukraine. The *Moskva* was built in Mykolayiv in USSR times. The UA marines sunk this RU warship in 2022.

Thank you for your hospitality and courage, Olena. I am touched by your efforts to contribute to the future of Mykolayiv and Ukraine. It was a pleasure to visit your office in Mykolayiv and I wish you and your colleagues all the best. Stay safe. Together we will rebuild a better Ukraine. Слава Україні!»

MDEM is grateful to the First Honorary Consul of Ukraine to the Netherlands Karel Burger Dirven for his visit, sincere words of support, faith in Ukrainians and Victory! Only by joint efforts we will overcome the enemy and defend the freedom, territorial integrity and peace on our Motherland.