



# TARA Foundation & Poseidon Sciences

**Tara Oceans and Poseidon Sciences announce their collaboration on a biofouling research project focusing on the prevention of invasive organisms from attaching themselves to submerged surfaces of a ship's hull**

## About TARA

Tara Oceans is a specially designed 118 ft. schooner, sponsored by the French Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) and many other marine research institutions. Its principal partnerships include the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Its main purpose is to conduct surveys of marine ecosystems as it travels on its 3-year voyage around the world. Tara Oceans has a 5-man crew and room for 7 scientists who work with sophisticated imaging and biological research equipment. Their task is to examine marine plankton and other microbial life in the oceans and near coral reefs as it travels along its 100,000 mile route.

To learn more about Tara Oceans, please see this link :

[www.tamarineexpeditions.org](http://www.tamarineexpeditions.org)

## POSEIDON SCIENCES

Poseidon Sciences Group is a research organization engaged in evaluating and testing coatings for the marine industry through its various tropical marine and sub-sea stations worldwide. With a complement of over 35 biologists, marine botanists, chemists and engineering personnel, Poseidon's team covers a wide spectrum of research from biomedicine, marine coatings, natural products, public health and conservation.

To know more about Poseidon, please see this link:

[www.poseidonsciences.com](http://www.poseidonsciences.com)

## TARA - POSEIDON COLLABORATION

This unique collaboration addresses one of the important issues confronting the maritime industry today--preventing invasive species from attaching themselves to the submerged portion of a ship's hull.

As *Tara Oceans* crosses various ecosystems, unpainted patches on its hull accumulate fouling organisms, which will be periodically examined by the ship's crew. The data, including its images will be transmitted electronically from the ship to one of Poseidon's marine stations for evaluation. This research will yield valuable information on the types of fouling that attached themselves to the hull at any time as the ship passes through different environments. For information on the sailing route of Tara Oceans, please click here, [http://oceans.taraexpeditions.org/en/the-expedition/the-expedition.php?id\\_page=24](http://oceans.taraexpeditions.org/en/the-expedition/the-expedition.php?id_page=24)

To encourage marine coating companies to participate in this research program the Tara - Poseidon research team has designed a research protocol based on the availability of a series of 1 m<sup>2</sup> patch areas on which each participating company would have its own environmentally friendly commercial coating applied. The antifouling performance of each test patch will be observed and photographed periodically by TARA Oceans crew during the course of the voyage. The results of this research, details of which will be proprietary to each participating company, will be invaluable in identifying the effectiveness of their coatings in preventing invasive species attachment.



For more information about Tara Oceans Expedition, please contact:

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