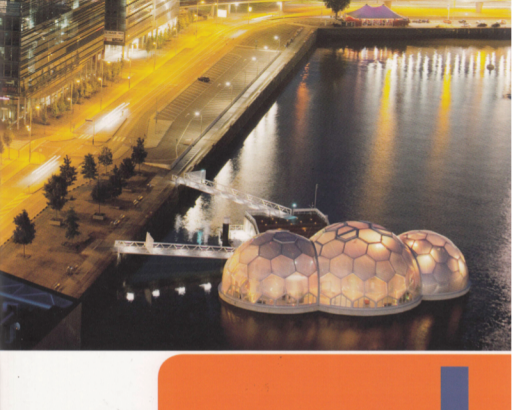


# BUILDING ON WATER CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

ERASMUS HUIS

April, 9th 2013  
Erasmus Huis



Holland  
Pioneers in International Business

Organised by  
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Maternilla in Uburg, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Architect Koen Olthuis - waterstudio.nl



Koninkrijk  
der Nederlanden



"Building on Water"

A cordial welcome to you at the conference at which Dutch companies will present their innovative concepts of building on water.

With the recent floods in Jakarta and elsewhere in Indonesia in mind it is important to look in a pro-active way at revolutionary alternatives to deal with their consequences.

The Netherlands has learned the hard way how to deal with the threat of flooding, by the sea or through its extended river system.

Although house boats are a fixture in the Dutch city- and landscape, new solutions include complete floating housing, office buildings, restaurants, greenhouses, theatres, sport accommodations, swimming pools and soccer field. The application for these concepts seem endless. During their presentations and the accompanying exhibition, Dutch companies will be showing some of their projects, both realised and still on the drawing board.

This conference offers an excellent opportunity for Indonesian and Dutch architects, developers, city planners and constructors jointly to look at practical solutions and opportunities for co-operation.

I wish you a successful conference and matchmaking event.

Tjeerd de Zwaan

Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



## Dutch Company Profiles

Crabbe, Nizoborsk, The Netherlands  
Architect Koen Olthuis - waterstudio.nl, Designer ONW/INWCO

Kingdom of the Netherlands

### Company Profile Waterstudio.NL

#### Vision

Waterstudio.NL is an architectural firm that has taken up the challenge of developing solutions to the problems posed by urbanization and climate change. Prognoses are that by 2050 about 70% of the world's population will live in urbanized areas. Given the fact that about 90% of the world's largest cities are situated on the waterfront, we are forced to rethink the way we live with water in the built environment. Given the unpredictability of future developments we need to come up with flexible strategies - planning for change. Our vision is that large-scale floating projects in urban environment provide a solution to these problems that is both flexible as well as sustainable. We think that the full potential of floating developments will not be utilized directly however, and predict the following trends for the upcoming 50 years.

Economic pressure and land prices in city centers often demand that old functions be demolished. The first step in water-based development for the upcoming 10 years, is to relocate such functions from the centre to the waterfront. This provides space for more economically feasible developments in expensive high-density areas while regenerating often dilapidated waterfronts. We call this trading places.

A next step would be expanding urban fabric beyond the waterfront: building normal urban configurations on water locations, with normal densities and usual typologies such as apartment-buildings, semi-detached housing etc. Water-based neighborhoods that look and feel just like traditional land-based areas but just happen to have a floating foundation that allows them to cope with water fluctuations.

The full potential of floating developments opens up when we start thinking about dynamic city planning. Floating developments are highly flexible because buildings and even complete city-parts can easily be relocated to suit changing demands. We will move towards a dynamic approach to our building stock and start seeing our buildings as recyclable products with a second hand market, reducing demolition and new construction to a minimum. The impact on reduction of CO2-emission and use of resources will be enormous. We predict that in about 30 to 50 years this will be our way of dealing with water-based city-planning - a dynamic and sustainable building strategy beyond the waterfront.

#### Profile Koen Olthuis

Koen Olthuis (1971) studied Architecture and Industrial Design at the Delft University of Technology. In 2007 he was chosen as nr. 122 on the Time Magazine list of most influential people in the world due to the worldwide interest in water developments. The French magazine Terra Eco chooses him as one of the 100 green persons that will change the world in 2011. In his vision today's designers are an essential part of the climate change generation and should start to enhance their perspective on urban components to become dynamic instead of static. His solution called City Apps, are floating urban components that add a certain function to the existing static grid of a city. Using existing urban water as building ground offers space for new density, offering worldwide opportunities for cities to respond flexibly to climate change and urbanization.

The first city, in which this vision is being developed, is The Westland, near The Hague in Holland. This project incorporates both floating social housing, floating islands, and floating apartment buildings. In 2010, the government of the Maldives agreed to develop a floating city, floating islands, floating golf courses, floating hotels and a floating conference centre in a joint venture, as a solution to the problems caused by rising sea levels and also to encourage social and economic advancement. A sustainable future lies beyond the waterfront!

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The Floating Dutchman®

Green is good, Blue is better