

**RESPIRABLE PARTICULATE MATTER IN THE AIR OF PIRAEUS,  
GREECE**

**T. KRITIKOU<sup>1</sup>, A. MOUSTAKIS<sup>1</sup>, F. RIGAS<sup>2</sup> and V. TSELENTIS<sup>3</sup>**

*<sup>1</sup>Association of Municipalities of Piraeus and West Attica*

*<sup>2</sup>National Technical University of Athens, Dept. of Chemical Engineering*

*<sup>3</sup>University of Piraeus, Department of Maritime Studies*

**ABSTRACT**

The PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>3</sub> respirable particulates were measured in Piraeus (Perama) where 38 shipyards operate. Measurements of PM<sub>3</sub> gave an annual mean of around 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is about twice the new U.S.EPA's annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The 24h measurements of PM<sub>10</sub> ranged from 24 to 220 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, while their annual mean was found to be 51 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. However, health implications depend not only on the respirable particulates concentration, but also on the chemical composition of the particles which is unfavorable in this case, due to heavy metals presence originating from the sand blasting and welding activities of the shipyards.