



Guus van der Bles, Director Development of Conoship International BV, graduated in 1986 as a Master of Science at 'Delft University of Technology', as a Naval Architect. He gained more than 30 years of experience in the maritime industry, managing an engineering and maritime consulting office and a steel prefabrication plant for shipbuilding in the Netherlands.

In 2005 he joined Conoship International BV, the Innovative Design Office for Short Sea Shipping; first as leading Naval Architect and since 2007 as Director. The drive to 'Improve Ship design by customized innovation', is reflected in his important role in R&D projects and innovative designs, focussing on 'eCONology': the combined improvement of eCONomy (fuel reduction) and eCOlogy (emission reduction), focussing on wind, LNG and other sustainable fuels for propulsion.

He worked as Ass. Professor at Delft University of Technology for 1 day/week from 2003 to 2015, where he investigated several methods of Wind Assisted Ship Propulsion. Based on technology developed by Jacques Cousteau he developed the VentiFoil and eConowind-unit: a powerful modular unit as easy to fit on a vessel as a 40 feet container, using the wind to reduce fuel and emissions for ships at sea. Meanwhile Conoship is partner in an R&D project on 'Onboard capturing and usage of CO₂', focussing on the applicability of the system on LNG-driven Short Sea Vessels, to achieve Zero-emission.