

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method of reducing the fluid friction drag of ships and fluid transport channels and prevent contamination and corrosion of a structure having an immersed portion. The method of forming an air layer over an immersed surface of a structure having an immersed portion, comprising the steps of: covering the immersed surface of a structure (hull 1) having an immersed portion with a coating layer 3, which has depressions 6 and projections 7 at the surface thereof and which has at least vertices 7' of the projections 7 formed of a water-repellent material 8; and supplying air a to the surface 10 of the coating layer to form an air film 12 between the coating surface 10 and water 13.

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