



PRESS RELEASE

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ANNOUNCING EUROPEAN SHIPPING WEEK 2015

Ship owners and shipping industry leaders have joined forces with global event organiser Shipping Innovation to launch the inaugural European Shipping Week (ESW) to be held in Brussels in the early part of 2015.

The week-long series of high level events will centre on a major conference and Gala Dinner celebrating the 50th anniversary of the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA). It will bring together the major players in the shipping industry with the primary aim of promoting the strengths and the importance of European and global shipping to legislators in Brussels such as the European Commission, European Parliament and the Council of Ministers.

The European Commission, through DG MOVE, has endorsed European Shipping Week and formal patronage is already being sought from it as well as the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers.

The initiative, which was the brainchild of the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA), will be run by a Steering Group made up of Europe's main shipping organisations as well as the European Commission and Shipping Innovation. The shipping organisations involved on the Steering Group include: ECSA; Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Europe; European Community Association of Ship Brokers and Agents (ECASBA); Interferry; the European Dredging Association; the World Shipping Council, as well as the European Tugowners' Association. Other European shipping associations may also be invited to support the initiative and hold relevant events during the week.

Welcoming the announcement of European Shipping Week, Patrick Verhoeven, Secretary General of the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA), said: "Hosting European Shipping Week gives the European and global shipping industry the ideal opportunity to demonstrate to the new European Parliament and the new European Commission why shipping in Europe is so important, particularly highlighting the industry's potential to generate greater growth and jobs.

"For ECSA, an important aim of European Shipping Week will be to sell the merits of a quality shipping industry to those in Brussels whose job it is to legislate and make rules."

ESW is organised by Shipping Innovation – a joint venture between Elaborate Communications and Petrosport and the driving force behind the highly successful London International Shipping Week (LISW). More details about the week-long line-up of events will be released in due course. An official website will be launched in the next few weeks.

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/2 Notes To Editors:

The ESW Steering Group Members are:



CLIA

Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) is the world's largest cruise industry trade association with representation in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australasia. CLIA represents the interests of cruise lines, travel agents, port authorities and destinations, and various industry business partners before regulatory and legislative policy makers. CLIA is also engaged in travel agent training, research and marketing communications to promote the value and desirability of cruise holiday vacations with thousands of travel agency and travel agent members. CLIA's Associate Member and Executive Partner programs include the industry's leading providers of supplies and services that help cruise lines provide a safe, environmentally-friendly and enjoyable holiday vacation experience for millions of passengers every year. For more information on CLIA, the cruise industry, and CLIA-member cruise lines and travel agencies, visit www.cruising.org



DG MOVE

Under the political guidance of Commissioner Vice-President Siim Kallas, the Directorate- General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) is in charge of developing transport policies for the European Union. Its remit is to ensure mobility in a single European transport area, integrating citizens' needs, environmental policy, and competitiveness. As part of it, the EU maritime transport policy aiming at promoting shipping quality and the competitiveness of the European fleet, regulating the internal market in the shipping sector, promoting qualifications and working conditions for seafarers, developing innovation and promoting European maritime policy at international level. http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/maritime/index_en.htm



ECASBA

European Community Association of Ship Brokers and Agents

The European Community Association of Ship Brokers and Agents (ECASBA) is the European Committee of FONASBA, the international representative body for the shipbroking and ship agency professions. Membership of ECASBA comprises the national associations in twenty two EU, EEA and applicant member states. ECASBA promotes and protects the interests of its members through dialogue and interaction with European Union institutions and other relevant bodies.



European Community Shipowners' Associations

The European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) is the trade association representing shipowners from the EU and Norway, covering all segments of the shipping industry. In aggregate figures, ECSA members represent a fleet of almost 15.000 vessels and 223 million gross tons (GT).

Since its establishment in 1965, ECSA has been the primary interlocutor of the European institutions on all maritime-related policy issues. ECSA strives to ensure that the interests of its members are well represented and that the voice of EU shipowners is heard during the EU legislative process."



European Dredging Association

The European Dredging Association (EuDA) was founded in 1993 as a non-profit industry organisation for European dredging companies and related organisations to interface with the various European Union's Institutions and also some International Organizations (such as IMO, HELCOM or ILO). EuDA members employ approximately 25,000 European employees directly on land and on board of the vessels and more than 48,300 people indirectly (through the suppliers and services companies). The combined fleet of EuDA's members counts approximately 750 seaworthy EU-flagged vessels.



European Tugowners Association

Founded in 1963 the European Tugowners Association is the sole interest group in Europe with the principal aim of promoting the interests of the European towage industry. Based in Brussels as a non-governmental organization, its membership is drawn from 21 European countries and comprises 81 companies, from the largest to small(er) in the sector, operating some 700 tugs in the ports and coastal areas of Europe
www.eurotugowners.com



Interferry

Interferry is the only shipping association representing the ferry industry world-wide. There are currently 225 members from 38 countries. Interferry serves to research and collect information on developments within and affecting the ferry industry, to provide a forum for people to share experiences and learn from others and to represent the industry regarding regulatory matters. To fulfill this latter role, Interferry actively participates at the International Maritime Organization.



Shipping Innovation

Shipping Innovation is an independent joint venture company that brings together two of the most experienced, creative, energetic and well-connected media companies in the maritime, transport and energy industries, Elaborate Communications Ltd and Petrosport Ltd.



WORLD SHIPPING COUNCIL
PARTNERS IN TRADE

World Shipping Council

The World Shipping Council, with offices in Brussels and Washington, D.C. represents the interests of the international liner shipping industry in public policy and regulatory matters. World Shipping Council members operate approximately 90 per cent of the global liner ship capacity, providing approximately 400 regularly scheduled services linking the continents of the world. Collectively, these services transport about 60 per cent of the value of global seaborne trade, and more than US\$ 4 trillion worth of goods annually.