# THE REPORT

The Magazine of the International Institute of Marine Surveying

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#### The IIMS UAE BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2019

HFW

IIMS UAE BRANCH 10TH ANNIVERSARY SAFE SHIPS, SAFE CARGO : THE INSURER'S PERSPECTIVE



- special Report Magazine supplement -

Queen Elizabeth 2

## A special thanks to the sponsors



#### ...and to the local government authorities too

While we thank our sponsors for providing us with the financial support in making this conference possible, we are also greatly obliged to the overwhelming support and cooperation extended to us by the local government authorities in providing the necessary permissions and in helping to make this conference a success. All the authorities that we approached were very supportive and encouraged us, especially the DMCA who provided us with the Keynote Speaker, RAK Ports, Sharjah Port, PCFC and EMAC who gave us with their valuable support and advices We thank all of them for their support and for making this conference a success.



#### Introduction



Welcome, introduction and thanks by Capt Zarir Irani, IIMS UAE Branch Regional Director

It is my pleasure to write this short introduction soon after the successful completion of the UAE branch's 10th year anniversary celebrations and conference that took place onboard the QE2 in Dubai.

In my welcome address to the conference attendees I indicated that we had had a good run with likeminded committee members over the past decade, who felt that surveyors needed to uplift the image of synergy and professional pride amongst us by working together to build and grow the brand image of our profession in the Middle East. This I feel, under the leadership of the past five branch chairmen, has been successful with the support of committee elected members.

We have good harmony going on in the UAE as a branch, supported by loyal committee members. We have been giving out four awards biennially to recognize the efforts of senior surveyors and this has improved our goodwill tremendously amongst our peers.

Benchmarking IIMS with other older and larger institutions such as RICS, NI, ICS, RINA, IMAREST, which have grown consistently and substantially over the years, it is beyond doubt that growth of the IIMS will be directly proportionate to the growth of its global branch activities. It remains the lifeline of our future growth.

The nature of our job means we have differences of opinions frequently while we are out there in the field for joint surveys, but please do not carry this home or off the job site. Do not let this difference of opinion get personal. We have demonstrated at the UAE Branch how we can co-operate and create something good together for uplifting our professionalism.

Capt Zarir Irani IIMS President and UAE Branch Regional Director





IIMS Chief Executive Officer, Mike Schwarz, comments

I have been fortunate enough to have been involved with the last three UAE Branch conferences, including hosting the most current event. There is no doubt that the bar has been raised each time and the most recent event on the QE<sub>2</sub> was not only well organised, but also well attended.

I would add my thanks to those who gave freely of their time to speak passionately about their specialist subjects all within the conference theme of *Safe Ships, Safe Cargo: The Insurers Perspective.* There were many thought-provoking presentations, indeed some posing more questions than answers for delegates to ponder on.

The IIMS UAE Branch remains one of the most proactive. I would add my thanks to those locally who work hard to arrange events for the benefit of members and others in the region.

Good luck for your next ten years.

*Mike Schwarz Chief Executive Officer* 

## Cocktail Party

On the evening of 19 November, nearly 100 invited guests assembled in the Grand Lounge on the famous old ship, the Queen Elizabeth 2, (now permanently moored in Dubai), for a splendid cocktail party to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the IIMS UAE Branch. The event was kindly and generously sponsored by HFW, represented by Richard Strub, who said a few words.



#### 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019











Once the canapes had been finished, IIMS CEO, Mike Schwarz thanked President, Capt Zarir Irani, the local UAE Branch Chairman, Capt Omprakash Marayil and his committee colleagues for their efforts, both in terms of securing such a prestigious and historic venue to mark this special celebration and for delivering a great event.

Special commemorative certificates were presented to each of the past Chairmen, the Treasurer, Current Chairman and Vice Chairman (see page 13 for the 'Roll of Honour').



During the event, Capt John Noble (left) donated a 30 year old bottle of whisky, a commemorative gift purchased onboard the QE2, for silent auction. The winner, announced the following afternoon, was Capt Nick Sloane (right) who bid US\$ 700, which will be donated to the Murrills House fund.

#### Award Winners

Mike Schwarz to announced the winners of four awards for excellence that had been decided on by the committee locally. They were:



Most Courteous Surveyor awarded to Chris Partridge



Facilitator for Surveying in the Region awarded to Capt Devathirjan, Harbour Master of Sharjah



Student of the Year awarded to Rohan Moorthi



Lifetime Achievement Award awarded to Brian Thornborrow

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

Delegates were welcomed to the event by President, Capt Zarir Irani. He gave way to Mohammed Khalifa Al Huraiz, (pictured below left) Director of Waterway Control. On behalf of the Dubai City Maritime Authority he officially welcomed guests to the city and to the IIMS UAE Branch Conference. The Institute would like to thank the Director for coming in person.

Dubai Maritime City Authority believes in the importance of playing a pioneering role in bringing best practices to the maritime industry in Dubai, making it a destination of excellence in the field, locally, regionally, and globally. IIMS is immensely grateful to the Authority for their most generous support and for helping in facilitating the conference.

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Wednesday 20 November, the day of the IIMS UAE Branch 6th Biennial Conference onboard the Queen Elizabeth 2, drew over 80 delegates on what turned out to be a unusually wet and miserable Dubai day. But inside the room, the mood was far more dynamic.



The first speaker of the day was IIMS CEO, Mike Schwarz. In his short address, he spoke about the progress and development of the Marine Surveying Practitioner Accreditation Scheme with the sole aim of helping to drive up standards across the profession.

Capt Rahul Khanna delivered a polished presentation on the topic of the Allianz Safety & Shipping Review 2019.



#### Morning Session

Arun Prassad, an expert in the local underwriting sector, gave an update on the current insurance market with a particular emphasis on war risk perspectives.

The ever popular Capt Nick Sloane, the man behind the project to salvage the Costa Concordia, gave a thorough overview of one of the most frightening scenarios – Ultra large containership fires.









Capt John Dolan presented on one of the most on trend topics – the risk caused by mis-declared cargo in container ships. He presented a rather gloomy overview of the current situation and urged the shipping sector to look for solutions to this unethical practice.



#### 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019











Richard Strub and Capt Sanjay Bhasin performed a fascinating double act, during which they played out a mock scenario and arbitration role play entitled Expert witness for a project cargo on a breakbulk vessel.

Rev Nelson Fernandez, Port Chaplain, from the Mission to Seafarers took to the stage just before lunch. Mission to Seafarers was the Branch Chairman's preferred local charity. He gave an overview in a short presentation about the work of the mission locally and a collection was held.



Queen Elizabeth 2

Delegated broke for buffet lunch, presented in the Lido Restaurant.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference



Veteran surveyor and mentor, Tony Fernandez HonFIIMS from India, spoke in his usual forthright manner, engaging the audience on the subject of Due diligence in marine hull insurance – myth and reality?







Capt Rajiv Thakar, W E Cox Claims Group, talked about the recovery from carriers of losses suffered by cargo interests involving the negligent navigation defence.



Dr Zubin Sethna covered the diverse subject of marketing, something that all surveyors need to have some knowledge about these days. A published author on this subject, he spoke about the onslaught of artificial intelligence from a marketing perspective.



#### Afternoon Session



The digitisation of the survey appointment means things are changing. Capt Henrik Uth was on hand to speak about and demonstrate the SYVR App.













Pawan Sahni, Business Development Director Middle East and Africa, DNV GL - Maritime, spoke knowledgeably during the last session of the afternoon.

#### 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019



Human error remains the root cause of so many incidents and accidents. Capt Porus Dalal (right) spoke knowledgably as he assessed this phenomenon.



Cyber remains a hot topic and Pradeep Luthria (right) is something of an expert on this subject. He spoke eloquently. His topic - cyber resilience and insurance?



IIMS UAE BRANCH 10TH ANNIVERSA





After each of the four sessions, panel discussions took place. These promoted much debate and many questions on the topic discussed and proved to be a valuable addition to the conference proceedings.

#### Branch meeting

At the end of a long day's conferencing, there was a local branch meeting attended by a group of local members plus others from overseas observing.



#### Roll of Honour

Special commemorative certificates were presented to each of the past Chairmen, the Treasurer, Current Chairman and Vice Chairman.



Captain Khalid Humail (left) -In recognition of your contribution and dedication as a past Chairman of the IIMS UAE Branch.



**Engr Uday Moorthi (right)** - In recognition of your contribution and dedication as a past Chairman of the IIMS UAE Branch.







Captain Peter Valles (left) -In recognition of your contribution and dedication as a past Chairman of the IIMS UAE Branch.



**Captain Omprakash Marayil (right) -** In recognition of your contribution and dedication as Chairman of the IIMS UAE Branch.



Robertas Vjuzaninas (left) receiving the branch plaque from Captain Omprakash Marayil as he takes over the roll of chairman for the branch.



**Bharati Bhagnari** - In recognition of your contribution and dedication as Treasurer of the IIMS UAE Branch.

#### A reflection on...



## ...past UAE Branch Conferences



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