

**International Institute of Marine Surveying – UAE Branch**  
**Branch Report for year 2020**

**Date: 20/05/2020**

**INTRODUCTION:**

The UAE branch of IIMS was started in 2007 by a handful of dedicated Marine surveyors. It is through the efforts of the past Chairmen and especially the Regional Director and President of the IIMS, Capt. Zarir Irani the branch has made steady progress and regular activities, including training workshops, meetings, seminars, webinars and networking events throughout the last year and 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of this year 2020.. In this regard, we need to acknowledge the efforts of the Past Chairmen and the committee members as follows:

Capt. Omprakash  
Capt. Zarir Irani  
Capt. Peter Valles  
Capt. Alex Thazhamon  
Capt. Nikhil Saxena  
Mr. Robertas Vjuzaninas  
Mrs. Bharati Bhagnani  
Ms. Lisa  
Mr. Rohan Moorthi  
Mr. Uday Moorthi  
Mr. Aloysius Soares

We also need to acknowledge the efforts of the various members who volunteered to assist in the sub committees and in the organising of events.

The employees of Constellation Marine have been a constant support to the Branch and have been assisting the Branch on various occasions such as setting up the software, Admin works, maintaining accounts and data base.

The past Chairman was Capt. Omprakash Marayil, who handed over the Chairmanship to the present Chairman, Mr Robertas Vjuzaninas during the AGM conducted on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

The present Committee members are:

Mr Robertas Vjuzaninas	:	Chairman
Mr. Aloysius Soares	:	Secretary
Mrs. Bharati Bhagnani	:	Treasurer
Mr. Rohan Moorti	:	In charge of events and entertainments
Capt. Nikhil Saxena	:	In charge of membership and communication
Capt. Alex Thazhamon	:	Assist. Capt. Nikhil Saxena
Capt Peter Valles	:	honorary member
Capt. Omprakash Marayil	:	honorary member
Mr. Uday Moorthi	:	honorary member

## **ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEARS 2020:**

### **16<sup>th</sup> April 2020:**

The AGM was followed by an interactive webinar “Proceed with caution now and port lockdown”. The number of participants exceeded 230 from 40+ countries.

### **14<sup>th</sup> May 2020:**

Hosted a successful interactive webinar “Claims Handling and Surveys”. The number of participants exceeded 430 from 42 countries.

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

The membership for the branch has not increased much and has been maintained steady at about 23

## **FUTURE PLANS, EVENTS & PROPOSALS:**

Below listed are some proposals and suggestions, which we would need the full approval, advise and support of the head quarters before even taking the next step ahead. We hope this would be discussed and decided to move ahead with these proposals:

1. Upcoming an interactive webinar will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 “The Silver Lining for Shipping Industry Post COVID 19 Era – Opportunities and Cautions”.
2. The aim is to increase the membership and a more vigorous drive would be initiated to increase membership. However, for this, we would need to provide the added perks in being an IIMS member and this would require us in meeting with port authorities, Insurance authorities, etc, to impress them that they would be safe to follow IIMS membership as a criteria to enforce the requirements for companies to carry out surveys in their premises and/or for their client.
3. There is a big dream to have IIMS to carry out accreditations for the survey companies to maintain the basic standards required for each type of survey undertaken. Under this plan, IIMS could set forward the guidelines for conduct of various types of surveys and carry out random verifications and audits for the participating companies. Of course, this can be effective only if the “Clients of surveying companies” (Shipping companies, Insurance companies, P&I Clubs, charterers....) would be willing to accept IIMS accreditation as a standard which they would insist when they appoint a survey company. To achieve this, IIMS would need to the the “clients” with this proposal and gain the confidence of these companies, so that they promise to employ companies with such IIMS accreditations. The idea is that the requirements for each survey could be listed with a minimum qualification, manpower and other resources including training etc...there would be a lot of discussion required, including legal formalities but it would put a new dimension to IIMS.

**Conclusion:**

To conclude this report, we look forward to all guidance and support from the head quarters and the previous office bearers/honorary members to take this branch forward in the same proactive path taken so far.

Thanking you,  
Sincere regards,

Robertas Vjuzaninas  
Chairman, IIMS UAE Branch

Date: 20/05/2020  
Abu Dhabi, UAE