



Thursday 19 June 2025, Divani Caravel Hotel, Athens, Greece

Conference Agenda

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08:00 Registration & Welcome Coffee

09:00 Opening Remarks
Capt. Haytham Chaaban, Conference Chairman

09:10 Welcome Address
Mr. Stefanos Gkikas,
Deputy Minister of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy.

09:30/10:40

***Session 1: The Shipping Sector;
Geopolitical and Economic Developments, Challenges and Lessons Learned***

Session Chairman

Vasilios Michael Chrysopoulos, Founder & CEO, A General Group, Greece.

Speakers

1. **H.E Eng. Essam M. Alammari**, Deputy for Maritime Transport at Transport General Authority, KSA.
2. **Capt. Manos Tzimpimpakis**, General Manager-Director, GMZ Ship Management (Hellas) S.A., Greece
3. **Ranim Ibrahim Obeid**, Managing Partner, GMCG Middle East.
4. **Al Mukhtar Saleh Al Saif**, Energy Expert, Port of Sohar, Oman.
5. **Jordi Torrent**, Secretary General of Medports Association / Strategy Director of the Port of Barcelona, Spain.

20 min Panel Discussion & Questions Open to the floor

This session will cover the following topics:

- *The factors influencing the maritime shipping market*
- *Latest commercial and technological innovations*
- *How can shipping achieve environmental, social, and economic goals?*
- *Shipowners facing market fluctuations, regulatory changes, and resilience strategies*
- *The region's pace on the decarbonization track, commercial costs, and readiness of shipowners and operators*
- *Academies and educational institutes on promoting youth involvement in the maritime industry*
- *Securing Shipping: Insights and Strategies for Safeguarding International Maritime Routes*
- *How can the sector address the expectations of its personnel while repositioning itself as an interesting profession?*

11:00/11:30 Networking Coffee Break

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11:30/12:40

Session 2: Ports;

The Region's Ports' Capacity to Handle Rapid Technological Change

Session Chairman

Capt. Ali Haidar

Managing Partner, Mediterranean Management Group, Greece.

Speakers

1. **Dr. Athanasios Karlis**, Deputy Manager of Marketing & Quality Control Dept., Piraeus Ports Authority, Greece
2. **Haitham Al Tamimi**, Marine Business Development Lead, Port of Sohar, Oman.
3. **Miltiadis Varvitsiotis**, CEO Skaramangas Shipyard, Greece.
4. **Dr. Ahmad Tamer**, Director General of Land and Maritime Transport, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Lebanon / Director of Tripoli Port, Lebanon.
5. **Dr. Dimitrios Tsitsamis MSc, PhD**, Head, Innovation Department, ThPA S.A, Greece
6. **Dr. Maria Boile**, Professor of Port and Terminal Policy and Management at the Department of Maritime Studies, University of Piraeus, Greece

20 min Panel Discussion & Questions Open to the floor

This session will cover the following topics:

- *Digitalization of East Med ports' services, challenges and opportunities*
- *What are the port's requirements for efficient and secure sharing of data among all stakeholders?*
- *The single window effect, improvement, regional and global application after more than one year of its implementation*
- *Increasing the environmental footprint of ports in the East Med region as a result of expanding global demand, sharp price swings, and strict regulations*
- *Economic prospects for container ports in the East Med region*
- *Cargo owners' requirements from ports and their authorities*
- *The future of logistics in the region's ports*
- *Sustainability and emission reduction in ports' operations*
- *Ports as maritime hubs for clean energy*

13:00/14:00

Lunch

14:00/15:10

Session 3: Technological Horizons;

Navigating the Latest and Future Digital and Technological Transformation

Session Chairman

Raymond Khawand, Managing Director, CONSOLMAR, Greece.

Speakers

1. **Leonidas Karystios**, Global Fleet Technology Director, Gas Carriers & Regional Business Development Manager, DNV, Greece.
2. **Pankaj Sharma**, Managing Director, OneLink, part of the Columbia Group, Cyprus.
3. **Yavor Velchev**, Founder, SHIPPOSSIBLE, Bulgaira.
4. **Ms. Elena Matzaridou**, WISTA Hellas - Member of WISTA International Yachting Committee, Greece
5. **Eng. Michel Akl**, Project Manager, Mouawad Consulting, Lebanon.

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20 min Panel Discussion & Questions Open to the floor

This session will cover the following topics:

- Progress in semi and fully autonomous shipping solutions with real-world implementation challenges and early adoption cases
- AI and data analytics applications enabling predictive maintenance, optimized weather routing, improved fuel efficiency, and enhanced crew safety protocols
- Smart ports development, blockchain applications for shipping documentation, and cloud-based fleet management platforms transforming maritime logistics
- Cybersecurity frameworks for protecting increasingly connected vessel systems and establishing international standards for maritime digital security
- Regulatory challenges for the implementation of such digital solutions

15:30/16:40

**Session 4: A Green Industry in the Making;
The Path Towards Zero Emissions**

Session Chairwoman

Dr. Iliana Christodoulou Varotsi, Senior Legal Consultant & Lead Industry Trainer, Greece.

Speakers

1. **Konstantinos Therapiotis**, Ionia Management SA, Greece
2. **Abdel Rahman El Shennawy**, General Manager for Business Development, ClassNK, UAE.
3. **Emmanouil Nikolaidis**, PhD, Nautical Institute Secretary General (Hellenic Branch), Greece.
4. **Ali Abouda**, Group CFO - Gulf Navigation Holding PJSC, UAE.
5. **Marinos Ioannou**, Environmental Manager - Dromon Bureau of Shipping, Cyprus.

20 min Panel Discussion & Questions Open to the floor

This session will cover the following topics:

- Maritime leaders' lookout to draw a road map towards a green future
- A look at the legislative and regulatory regulations for a sustainable maritime future
- Diversification of marine fuels, alternative fuels, and industry's readiness for such changes
- Establishing regulatory policies and cooperation among stakeholders

17:00

End of the Conference.

17:00 -
18:00

Networking Coffee Break

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