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## **Judges announced, it's time to prepare for The Maritime Standard Awards 2018**

Dubai, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018: The Maritime Standard Awards 2018 will take place at iconic The Atlantis, the, Palm, Dubai, on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018. Clive Woodbridge, Editor of The Maritime Standard, and Chairman of the judging panel, says, "We are giving companies a bit of a head start, with a pre-nominations announcement. Now is the time to start planning your nominations and begin to gather together the evidential information you will need to submit."

He adds, "It takes time to put together a high quality nomination and those who are successful have usually put a lot of effort into compiling evidence against all the key criteria for their particular category. My advice is the sooner you start the process, the better your chance of a positive outcome will be."

There will be around 28 different awards presented on the night, covering a range of activities in shipping, ports, and related sectors. The majority of these will be selected by an eminent panel of independent judges.

The Judging Panel for the Maritime Standard Awards 2018 has now been confirmed. Chaired by The Maritime Standard editor, Clive Woodbridge, the Judging Panel is made up of experienced,



well respected individuals that have been drawn from many different fields and countries to ensure that the Awards maintain their reputation for being the “Gold Standard” awards for the industry.

This year The Maritime Standard is pleased to confirm that the judges will comprise: Clive Woodbridge, Editor, The Maritime Standard; Abdulla Bin Damithan, Chief Commercial Officer, DP World; Abdulkareem Al Masabi, Chief Executive, ADNOC Logistics & Services; Ali Shehab, Deputy CEO, Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC); Angus Frew, Secretary General and Chief Executive, BIMCO; Capt. Anoop Kumar Sharma, Chairman and Managing Director, The Shipping Corporation of India; Capt. David Stockley, Chief Operating Officer, Oman Shipping Company; Capt. Jitendra Misra, Managing Director, Emarat Maritime; Dr. Mustafa Massad, President, Jordan Academy for Maritime Studies; Capt. S.R. Patnaik, Director and Chief Executive Officer, International Shipping and Logistics; Ruwan Waidyaratne, Managing Director of Hayley's Advantis Limited and Chairman of Ceylon Association of Ships Agents (CASA); and Eng. Sherine El Naggar, Chairman, AK Naggar Group.

All the judges for the Maritime Standard Awards 2018 are experts in their fields, with many years of experience in shipping, ports, ship agency and logistics, maritime training and other areas of the maritime industry. The judges independently assess the nominations and submit marks based on predetermined criteria to ensure a transparent and fair process.

Trevor Pereira, Founder and Managing Director of The Maritime Standard, says, “We are delighted that these leading figures in the industry, whose knowledge spans many different market segments and geographical regions, have agreed to be part of the judging process. Their expertise and integrity are unquestionable and the industry can have every faith in their judgment in adjudicating who are the most worthy winners in all categories.”

The Maritime Standard Awards is a glittering ceremony that recognises exceptional achievements and innovations within the region. Over 700 prominent personalities are expected to attend the gala dinner and awards, representing many of the biggest and most prominent companies within the Middle East and the Indian Subcontinent.

Ali Shehab, Deputy CEO, Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC), says, “The TMS judging process is very transparent, accountable and fair. I strongly encourage companies to nominate themselves for the Awards, as it is a very valuable experience.”

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Capt. Jitendra Misra, Managing Director, Emarat Maritime, adds, “The difference between a good and a great nomination usually lies in the effort put into the entry. So do your research and put effort in at this stage of the process.”

Nominations are invited from across the region, including the Middle East and the Indian Subcontinent. A full list of categories can now be found on <http://www.tmsawards.com/award-categories/>.

Nominations will open on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

## **Editor’s Note: About The Maritime Standard**

The Maritime Standard (TMS), publishes a regular e-newsletter aimed specifically at the shipping and maritime community. It is delivered fortnightly, on the 1st and 15th of every month. It delivers the most accurate, up-to-date news about the market and has built up the largest readership of any shipping-related online newsletter in the Middle East and India. It is also gaining popularity in other major shipping hubs, including Oslo, Hamburg, Singapore, London and Greece. The newsletter includes news and analysis from the shipping and ports industries and related sectors in the Middle East and the Indian Subcontinent. Topics that are covered include tanker shipping, container operations, dry and liquid bulk trades, ro-ro, and cruise shipping. In addition there is up to date information about regional terminal operations; port development; classification; ship repair and conversion; shipbuilding; ship agency; finance and insurance; maritime law; and transportation & logistics. The newsletter regularly carries exclusives, analysis and interviews with top executives.

TMS also publishes the very successful TMS UAE Yearbook. The first 2016/17 edition was followed by a second volume covering 2017/18, that was launched in July last year. Covering key developments across the country’s maritime sector, the annual publication aims to publicise the UAE’s achievements both locally and internationally, through in depth articles, researched first hand. These cover all the major sectors of the shipping, ports and maritime industry in the UAE. The articles, on terminals, shipping companies, shipyards, maritime law firms, classification, regulators and inland transport firms, among others, have been well received by the industry as a year round reference point. The Maritime Standard UAE Yearbook 2017/18 is a must-read publication for everyone interested in UAE maritime issues, and can be downloaded by going to: <http://www.themaritimstandard.com/uae-yearbook-2017-18>

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Preparations for the 2018/19 issue are well underway and this will be published in the summer of 2018.

Website: [www.themaritimestandard.com](http://www.themaritimestandard.com)

The not-to-be missed The Maritime Standard Awards recognise and celebrate success in the shipping, ports and related sectors across the Middle East and the Indian Subcontinent. The fifth edition of TMS Awards will take place on Monday, on 15th October 2018 at The Atlantis, The Palm, Dubai.

The Awards are now positioned as one of the world's leading shipping and maritime Awards gala dinners and are the premier event of their kind in the region. All of the four events to date have been held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, and have each attracted close to 700 of the region's elite shipping and maritime professionals, as well as a number of leading figures from overseas. These guests have come from a variety of industry segments, ranging from ports and terminal operators to ship owners and managers, and executives from the worlds of maritime law and finance, classification, ship building and repair and maritime education and training.

For the inaugural event in 2014 PR guru, journalist and writer Alastair Campbell performed as master of ceremonies, while in 2015 Dutch soccer legend, Ruud Gullit compered the event and in 2016 former CNN news anchor, Jim Clancy, was on stage to lead proceedings.

The 2017 TMS Awards event, which was hosted by the well-known actress and model, Lara Dutta, saw 20 general awards presented, following the recommendations of an elite, independent judging panel, as well as a number for special individual awards recognising the contributions made by high profile industry leaders and innovators. The Awards have set a benchmark within the industry and have become an eagerly anticipated meeting place for top executives from across the business, where they can meet, network and create new opportunities.

Website: [www.tmsawards.com](http://www.tmsawards.com)

The third Maritime Standard Tanker Conference will be held on 16th October 2018 at Atlantis, the Palm, Dubai. Attendees will include key decision makers and opinion formers who were able to discuss the challenges and opportunities that exist, not just for ship owners and operators active in the tanker markets, but those delivering products and services to this sector. The second TMS Tanker Conference

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took place on 24th October 2017 at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Dubai. Presentations were given by many of the region's leading tanker owners and operators, as well as experts in related fields. For more information about the 2018 event, which is at an advanced planning stage, please go to the website: [www.tmstankerconference.com](http://www.tmstankerconference.com)

The fourth Maritime Standard Ship Finance and Trade Conference will be held on 6th November 2018 at Sheraton Abu Dhabi Hotel & Resort. The Conference will bring together experts from the fields of shipping, ports, banking, finance, trade and maritime law, among others, to discuss and debate the key issues and trends facing the shipping business, and trade, in the Middle East and the Indian Subcontinent. The third TMS Ship Finance and Trade Conference took place at the Sheraton Abu Dhabi Hotel and Resort, on November 8th 2017, building on the success of the first two events, held in 2015 and 2016 respectively. Speakers shared their insights and knowledge through a series of presentations and panel discussions, signposting the way forward. For more information about the 2018 event, please go to: [www.tms-shipfinanceandtrade.com](http://www.tms-shipfinanceandtrade.com)

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