

PRESS RELEASE



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For immediate release

Eco-friendly shipping tops Korean maritime conference agenda

Environment issues led the agenda at this year's Seoul International Maritime and Shipbuilding Conference (SIMS) staged by the Korean Register of Shipping in Seoul today (2 September 2010).

According to **Mr Oh Kong-Gyun, Chairman and CEO of the Korean Register of Shipping (KR)**, the environment should top the agenda of every organisation involved in shipping. Opening the conference he said:

"Every company that has an involvement in shipping has a responsibility for ensuring that the industry is doing all within its power to reduce the impact its activities have on the natural environment. This includes those who design and build ships, those who operate and manage ships, and those who provide the range of services required to keep ships operating including, of course, class".

Mr Oh was followed by a succession of internationally recognised speakers who discussed safety from a variety of perspectives. Cliff Proctor from OCIMF reinforced the importance of ship inspections and standards whilst Peter Swift from Intertanko zoned-in on the human element citing a "happy ship is safer ship". Ian Harrison from Intercargo reported on his organisation's annual study into bulkcarrier safety and updated delegates on their work program.

The environment session was led by Dr Chun Kang-woo from the Korean Register who discussed the importance of reducing particulate matter emissions from ships and he was followed by a debate on how the new marine fuel regulations would affect tankers facilitated by Dragos Rauta of Intertanko. The topical issue of ballast water management was covered by David Tongue of the ICS and this was illustrated by real-life examples from Brian Lee of Hanjin Shipping who introduced delegates to

his company's green management program. The workings of the IMO and, in particular, its work on environmental issues was discussed by Shin Jeong-do of KR.

The conference was attended by around 200 practitioners from many maritime sectors including ship operators, ship builders, classification, industry organisations and administrations. SIMS was held on the day prior to the Tripartite workshop focusing on GHG issues which was also staged in Seoul.

Ends

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Notes to editors

The Korean Register of Shipping is an IACS member classification society established in 1960 with the purpose of promoting safety of life, property and the protection of the marine environment.

The third Seoul International Maritime and Shipbuilding Conference was held at the Grand Hilton Hotel, Seoul, Korea on 2 September 2010. It was organised by the Korean Register of Shipping with the support of the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs, the Korea Shipowners' Association, the Korea Shipbuilders' Association and the Korea Marine Equipment Association. Its primary aim was to further the promotion of safety and the protection of the environment through quality shipbuilding.

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