

## Press Release

Embargoed till 16 January 2015, 7.30pm

**Over 300 maritime leaders joined the Guest-of-Honour, Mr Lui Tuck Yew, Minister for Transport, at the Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) New Year Cocktail Reception 2015 at Conrad Centennial Singapore to usher in the new year**

***Maritime Singapore continues to do well despite the global challenges faced by Singapore's maritime industry in 2014***

**Singapore, 16 January 2015** – Minister for Transport, Mr Lui Tuck Yew ushered in the new year with over 300 maritime leaders from the private and public sectors, as the Guest-of-Honour, at the annual New Year Cocktail Reception organised by the Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF).

Held at Conrad Centennial Singapore, top maritime leaders from both the private and public sectors graced the high-level networking function. They include Mr Pang Kin Keong, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transport, Board Members of the Singapore Maritime Foundation, and leaders of the maritime industry.

Since the inception of SMF in 2004, SMF has been working in sync with the public and private sectors of the maritime community to spearhead new initiatives to propel Singapore towards its vision to be an international maritime centre and attract talents to pursue maritime education and maritime careers.

In his opening address, Mr Michael Chia, SMF Chairman, highlighted some of the Foundation's key initiatives to boost the development of Maritime Singapore in 2014. Some of these initiatives include the MaritimeONE Scholarship Programme, the inaugural

Singapore Ministerial Maritime Dialogue, the Little Red Dot Reading Passport Sponsorship Programme, and the Maritime Profiling Video, a project commissioned by SMF with the help of various industry partners, to showcase 11 actual maritime professionals across various sectors at work. Please refer to [Appendix A](#) for more information on SMF's key initiatives.

He also urged the Singapore maritime community to look forward to the upcoming Sea Asia conference and exhibition from 21 to 23 April 2015 – the iconic maritime event of Singapore and SMF's flagship event during Singapore Maritime Week.

“This will be our fifth edition where we are expecting some 14,000 participants, with a 40 per cent increase in exhibition space across two floors at the Marina Bay Sands Singapore. We look forward to your support and presence at this flagship event,” said Mr Michael Chia, SMF Chairman. Please refer to the press kit for the transcript of the speech.

In his speech, Minister Lui highlighted the overall performance of the Singapore maritime industry and port performance in 2014. He also shared insights about key initiatives to strengthen Maritime Singapore. Please refer to the press kit for the transcript of the speech.

2015 looks to be a busy year ahead for SMF. Apart from Sea Asia 2015, the third edition of the Singapore Maritime Services Guide will be launched during the Singapore Maritime Week. The publication seeks to showcase the diversity of maritime ancillary services in Singapore through a listing of maritime companies across various specialisations ranging from Bunkering, Law & Arbitration, Finance, and Classification Societies to Shipbrokers, Ship Surveying, Marine & Offshore Engineering amongst others.

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## About the Singapore Maritime Foundation

The Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) is a private sector-led organisation established in 2004 to develop and promote Singapore as an **International Maritime Centre (IMC)**, in partnership with the government and maritime players.

### The broad objectives of the SMF are:

- To provide a **forum** in the private sector for exchanging, generating and developing ideas and proposals to turn Singapore into an IMC
- To act as the **catalyst** in fostering mutual co-operation among various sectors of the maritime industry
- To serve as the government's **partner** from the private sector in promoting Singapore as an IMC and developing manpower to support the maritime industry

For details, please visit [www.smf.com.sg](http://www.smf.com.sg)

## Appendix A

### **Singapore Maritime Foundation's Key Initiatives**

#### **1. Sea Asia: SMF's flagship event, an iconic show of Singapore, started in 2007**

Introduced in 2007, Sea Asia is one of the fastest growing and most influential maritime events in Asia today. The Sea Asia show is co-organised by Seatrade and SMF. In 2010, the Sea Asia show won the prestigious Exhibition of the Year award at the Singapore Experience Awards organised by the Singapore Tourism Board.

Held as one of the anchor events at the Singapore Maritime Week (SMW) organised by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, Sea Asia is the perfect platform for business with the largest gathering of international and regional shipping luminaries from the maritime community. The fifth edition of the iconic maritime show will take place from 21 to 23 April 2015 at Singapore's premier exhibition venue, Marina Bay Sands (MBS).

For more details on Sea Asia, please visit [www.sea-asia.com](http://www.sea-asia.com).

#### **2. Reconstitution of the Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration in 2009**

The Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA) was originally established in November 2004 within the umbrella of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC). In May 2009, the SCMA was reconstituted as a company limited by guarantee and separate from the SIAC. Between 2004 till its reconstitution, all of SCMA's arbitrations were administered. However, from May 2009, the un-administered model of arbitration was adopted as a replacement and a new set of Rules, the SCMA Rules 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (2009) were introduced to be used in conjunction.

After its reconstitution, SCMA moved away from the administered model of arbitration and adopted an arbitration framework that is more reflective of the needs of the maritime community. Since then, the number of maritime arbitration caseload has been increasing steadily with more than 50 per cent of the parties that are involved in registered disputes using SCMA rules, not being based in Singapore.

SCMA's panel of arbitrators consist of more than 60 qualified arbitrators, all of whom have proven maritime experience. The panel is international, comprising nationals from Singapore, Australia, China, Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States etc. The arbitration awards are recognised and enforceable by over 140 signatory countries under the 1958 New York Convention Governing the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards. While the list offers comprehensive choice, users of SCMA Rules continue to enjoy full autonomy in their appointment of arbitrators.

### **3. Launch of the Singapore Ship Sale Form in 2011**

The Singapore Ship Sale Form (SSF) was launched by SMF on 6 January 2011 in response to the Singapore and Asian maritime communities' call for an alternative sale form that would better serve their needs for sale and purchase of second-hand vessels. From the inception to the implementation of the form for use by the maritime industry, the SSF was formulated in close partnership with shipping associations as well as maritime players across diverse specialisations.

Since its launch, SMF has been working closely with industry partners to raise the awareness of the SSF and encourage the use of the form. Endorsed by the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations (FASA) and strongly supported by the Asian Shipowners' Forum (ASF), the SSF has been gaining in momentum with more than 200 known shipping transactions that have adopted the form to date.

#### Launch of publication on SSF, *Sale of Ships Under The Singapore Form*, in 2013

A publication titled *Sale of Ships Under The Singapore Form* was also launched by SMF in April 2013 during the Singapore Maritime Week. Co-authored by renowned maritime legal experts, Mr Filippo Lorenzon and Mr Charles Debattista, this publication provides very detailed clause by clause commentary of the SSF and highlights the main differences between the Singapore text and the one in the Norwegian Sale Form, both in its 1993 and 2012 editions. The publication is published by LexisNexis Singapore and supported by SMF.

For more details on the SSF, please visit [www.singforms.com](http://www.singforms.com).

### **4. Choice of Singapore to represent the Asia region as the seat for maritime arbitration for the BIMCO Standard Dispute Resolution Clause 2013**

In November 2012, the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) announced that Singapore is now recognised as an official seat of arbitration to represent the Asia region, next to well-established maritime cities, London and New York, for the BIMCO Standard Dispute Resolution Clause 2013. The inclusion to be made to the existing BIMCO Standard Dispute Resolution Clause would appear in all new and revised BIMCO contracts.

Since May 2012, SMF and the Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA) had been working closely with BIMCO to prepare the Singapore Arbitration Clause for inclusion in the current Dispute Resolution Clause.

This recognition by BIMCO, the renowned shipping documentation expert, is a milestone achievement for Singapore as it bears testimony that Singapore has gained international recognition as a key node of the global maritime network.

## **5. Singapore Maritime Services Guide**

A collaboration with local publisher, Marshall Cavendish, the publication seeks to showcase the wide spectrum of maritime ancillary services in Singapore through a listing of companies across various specialisations ranging from Bunkering, Law & Arbitration, Finance and Classification Societies to Shipbrokers, Ship Surveying, Marine & Offshore Engineering, amongst others. The first edition of the Guide was launched in April during the *Sea Asia* 2011 as part of the Singapore Maritime Week, while the second edition was launched for the Singapore maritime community during the Singapore Maritime Week in April 2013.

A third edition of the publication would be launched this April 2015, during Singapore Maritime Week.

## **6. MaritimeONE Scholarship Programme, started in 2007**

The MaritimeONE scholarship programme is one of the key initiatives under MaritimeONE that focuses on nurturing talents for the Singapore maritime industry. Since the inaugural Scholarship Awards Ceremony in 2007, a total of 200 scholarships, worth more than S\$5.2 million, have been awarded to outstanding and deserving students to pursue maritime-related courses in Singapore and overseas.

To date, the maritime companies that have pledged their support to the programme include: "K" Line Pte Ltd; American Bureau of Shipping; Fednav Singapore Pte Ltd; Global Maritime Talent Pte Ltd; Haider Nawaz (personal sponsorship); IMC Industrial Group; Jurong Port Pte Ltd; Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd; Lloyd's Register Foundation; M3 Marine Group Pte Ltd; NORDEN Shipping (Singapore) Pte Ltd; PSA Corporation Ltd; Sembcorp Marine Ltd; Singapore Maritime Academy - Singapore Polytechnic; Singapore Maritime Officers' Union; Singapore Shipping Association; SMTG Global (Singapore) Pte Ltd; Swire Pacific Offshore Operations (Pte) Ltd; The China Navigation Company Pte Ltd; The Chua Chor Teck Memorial Fund; The Shipowners' Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association (Luxembourg) (Singapore Branch); Thome Ship Management Pte Ltd and X-PRESS FEEDERS.

To find out more details, please email to [scholarship@sgmf.com.sg](mailto:scholarship@sgmf.com.sg).

## **7. Inaugural Singapore Ministerial Maritime Dialogue**

The Singapore Maritime Dialogue was held for the first time in 2014. Senior Minister of State for Finance and Transport Mrs Josephine Teo, was the Guest-of-Honour for the event, which engaged students from various junior colleges and polytechnics on key issues relating to the Singapore maritime industry. About 200 students had the chance to hear from, and pose questions, to a panel consisting of Mrs Josephine Teo, and four other senior maritime leaders at the session.

The one-hour dialogue and Q&A session between the students and the dialogue panellists covered a wide range of issues pertinent to the maritime industry, including the growing global competition and the Singapore government's commitment to the

maritime industry through investments in manpower and infrastructure, as well as Singapore's manpower policies on developing local manpower and talent, and providing quality job opportunities for locals.

## **8. Little Red Dot Reading Passport Sponsorship Programme**

The Little Red Dot (LRD) Maritime Reading Passport project is an initiative that SMF had collaborated with The Straits Times on, which reached out to 80,000 primary school students from 130 primary schools in Singapore. Readers could learn more about the maritime industry and its career opportunities through the various activities under this project.

A brief summary of the project as below:

- The Maritime Reading passport was launched on 15 July 2014.
- Articles were based on a maritime-related serialised narrative which appeared in the LRD paper for six consecutive weeks in July and August. The LRD paper is a tabloid size paper that is a free supplement to primary schools that subscribes to over 50 copies of The Straits Times. Students would read the articles and work on the related activities in the Maritime Reading Passport each week.
- A Maritime Learning Journey on 11 November 2014 was organised for the school that earned the school-based prize for their number of passport submissions.

The Maritime Learning Journey consisted of a visit to the Singapore Maritime Academy at Singapore Polytechnic, the Singapore Maritime Gallery, and a prize presentation ceremony – to award the student who had sent in the best responses to two questions posed in the passport a trip to Hong Kong Disneyland for a family of 4.

## **9. Maritime Profiling Video**

The Maritime Profiling Video is a 2-minute video which showcases 11 maritime professionals across the different sectors of the maritime industry at work, and links the maritime industry with the notion of success. This video aims to instill in youths a positive perception of the maritime industry, and is used for various MaritimeONE outreach events as well as other platforms that could reach out to more young people.

Last year, SMF ran a cinema advertisement campaign from 20 November 2014, to showcase the 30-second version of the Maritime Profiling Video at Golden Village, Cathay, Filmgarde and Shaw cinemas, to raise awareness of the maritime industry to the young people who would usually visit the cinemas during their school holidays.