

# The FLAG

Issue 37

June 2022



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# Editor's Foreword

We are pleased to bring you the 37th edition of The Flag newsletter, with the latest updates from The Bahamas Maritime Authority, along with insightful contributions from our global partners.

In this edition, Captain Hutchinson, The BMA's Managing Director & CEO, identifies the three key issues facing the shipping industry today: seafarers; the environment; and technology.

We were honoured to welcome the Hon JoBeth Coleby-Davis, Minister of Transport & Housing, to London for her first official overseas engagement, where she had a fruitful and productive meeting with IMO Secretary General Kitack Lim discussing areas of mutual interest for the maritime sector. A warm welcome is also extended to our new Board of Directors with Jacqueline Simmons as the Chairman, who along with Minister Coleby-David, demonstrates the female contribution to the Authority's strategic aims.

Bahamas Shipowners Association's Chairman John Adams addresses the difficulties arising from the current geopolitical situation and how it is affecting seafarers.

Find out about The BMA's recent agreement with Ben Line Agencies to extend its global representation through South Korea, one of the world's leading shipbuilding and ship-owning nations.

We explain why The BMA has become an Ambassador of Namepa, the North American Marine Protection Association, and the importance of sustainability to the Authority. The BMA's ongoing commitment to achieving and maintaining the highest possible

international standards has been recognised by the United States Coast Guard (USCG) through its Qualship 21 programme. The Flag's consistent adherence to quality is further underlined by our ranking in the top echelons of the Paris MoU White List while our Concentrated Inspection Campaign on pilot transfer arrangements demonstrates the value we place on safety – our findings are explored here.

We have been proud to honour the many influential women working in maritime on International Women's Day and we are fully supportive of the IMO's decision to mark this contribution on an annual basis.

The BMA has built a varied and diverse fleet portfolio as can be seen through the wide range of newly registered vessels showcased in The Flag, including the BMA's first LNG powered passenger ship, the world's largest FLNG and the innovative leading offshore vessel.

As we progress to living with COVID19 and more in-person engagement, we hope you enjoy reading this edition of The Flag and we continue to welcome input and proposals for future editorial.



**Charlotte Ward**  
Editor

# Update from Capt. Dwain Hutchinson

## All eyes on seafarers, green shipping and tech



**Capt. Dwain Hutchinson**  
Managing Director and CEO of The BMA

Firstly, I hope that everyone has had a positive, productive and most importantly healthy first few months of the year. For my latest update, I'll cover the three issues that we at The Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) consider as the key for the shipping industry - namely: Seafarers, the Environment and Technology.

The human element and more specifically seafarers remain the critical component to the sector and their role throughout the pandemic cannot be overestimated. Without this dedicated, competent and committed group, global trade would have ground to a halt, causing major shortages of food, medical supplies, goods and other essential items that billions of people take for granted.

Since early 2020, we have worked with strategic partners and our ship owners to support mariners facing significantly longer periods at sea as a result of the ongoing crew change crisis. Our Seafarer COVID-19 Welfare Survey, launched in April 2021, captures and reflects the physical and mental wellbeing of crewmembers who have continued manning and operating vessels throughout the pandemic.

Results from the survey which cover the human element, training and crew welfare will be shared with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Labour Organization. In the meantime, we encourage our partners and ship owners to continually review crew competency and expertise, as the industry steers towards a new tech age arising from the IMO's mandate for zero emissions by 2050.

Turning to the environment, all sectors must commit to tackling climate change, and shipping is no exception with investment in technology key to reducing the global maritime sector's carbon

footprint. Along with our partners, we support the targets set at COP26 to make maritime an eco-friendly industry targeting designing and operating green vessels that run on clean rather than fossil fuels. As a small island developing country managing a quality ship Registry, we are encouraged by the proposals and recognise the commitment of the industry to make the necessary investment to achieve the ambitious green house gas reduction goal which aligns with the IMO 2022 maritime theme of New Technologies for Greener shipping.

I am sure that over the period of the pandemic, we have all become more familiar and appreciative of the technology that has enabled effective communication and continued provision and receipt of goods and services. For The BMA, the ability to capitalise on our experiences with technology during the pandemic has facilitated the progression of our online services and processes which improves efficiency and introduces environmental benefits for our customers and The BMA team. The use of technology facilitated remote surveys and audits to ensure ships remained operational and also allowed for ongoing seafarer training so that they were able to continue working throughout and beyond the pandemic.

These are my thoughts for the issues ahead and which I look forward to discussing with you, hopefully in person, at maritime events throughout the year. Take care and continue to be safe.



## Bahamas Register at a glance



More than +1450 vessels representing some +65 million gross tons



Our safety record is among the very best of the open registers



Our ships are operated by the world's best known shipping companies



Newly built ships feature significantly on our register.



We pride ourselves on the quality of service to our owners.

# Minister meets IMO Secretary General in first official overseas engagement



**The Hon JoBeth Coleby-Davis**  
Minister of Transport & Housing

Following the general election in The Bahamas and the appointment of the Hon JoBeth Coleby-Davis as The Minister of Transport & Housing, The BMA was honoured that her first official engagement overseas was in London where she met the IMO Secretary General Kitack Lim.

As an archipelagic nation, Small Island Developing State (SIDS) and one of world's largest ship Registries, shipping is of critical importance to the Bahamas and this was highlighted by the priority afforded by Minister Coleby-Davis to reaffirming the country's commitment to, and support of, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and its Sustainable Development Goals.

Minister Coleby-Davis and Secretary General Lim discussed a broad range of strategic matters ranging from climate change to seafarers and sustainability post COVID. Minister Coleby-Davis, who was joined by BMA Managing Director & CEO, Captain Dwain Hutchinson, Bahamas High Commissioner, Ellison Greenslade and Ambassador Designate Leslie Miller-Brice, expressed appreciation to the IMO Secretariat for continuing to facilitate the regulatory process despite the pandemic and the Secretary General leadership of the process was commended.

The Bahamas contribution to the strategic decision-making process through its IMO Council membership

is also recognised at the highest national level and The BMA was honoured to have the Bahamas Minister of Foreign Affairs, Fredrick Mitchell, host a reception for IMO members and hold bilateral meetings to outline the value of the Bahamas representation on the IMO Council. Minister Mitchell and Minister Coleby-Davis, through Captain Hutchinson, conveyed their thanks and appreciation to all the Bahamas partners including the Bahamas shipowners and seafarers onboard Bahamas flagged ships for maintaining the quality reputation of The Bahamas.

Minister Coleby-Davis said: "I was very pleased to make London my first official port of call, particularly as this is the headquarters of the global regulatory body for shipping – the International Maritime Organization.

"It was a great pleasure for me to meet up with IMO Secretary General Kitack Lim. The maritime sector is of huge importance to the Bahamas and we recognise the vital role the IMO plays in developing the regulatory standards that affect the maritime industry and also the technical assistance that is provided by the organization to developing countries such as the Bahamas. We welcome and support the IMO's vision and initiatives to eliminate adverse environmental impacts from ships as Small Island Developing States such as the Bahamas especially feel the consequences of climate change.

"We are not only concerned with the maritime environment but also with the health and wellbeing of mariners themselves. As an archipelagic nation, we are reliant on ships and seafarers for our long term sustainability, therefore we fully support the efforts of the IMO and other stakeholders to expedite crew change and timely repatriation to ease the burden on crew."



Board Group Photo from left to right - Azara Prempeh (IMO Chief of Staff), Dwain Hutchinson, Leslie Miller-Brice – Ambassador, Kitack Lim – IMO Secretary General, JoBeth Lillian Coleby-Davis - Minister of Transport and Housing, His Excellency Ellison Edroy Greenslade QPM)

# Introducing The BMA's new board of directors



**Jacqueline M. Simmons**  
Chairman



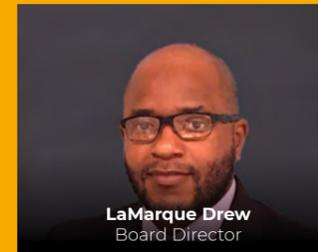
**Peter John Goulandris**  
Deputy Chairman



**Ja'Anne Major**  
Board Director



**Rachad Adderley**  
Board Director



**LaMarque Drew**  
Board Director



**V. Moreno Hamilton**  
Board Director



**Dario Lundy-Mortimer**  
Board Director



**Antoinette L. Thompson**  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Transport and Housing



**Capt. Dwain Hutchinson**  
Managing Director and CEO

A new board has been appointed for The Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA), featuring leading figures from the shipping industry including Jacqueline M. Simmons as Chairman.

Jacqueline M. Simmons is joined by LaMarque Drew, Rachad Adderley, V. Moreno Hamilton, Ja'Anne Major and Dario Lundy-Mortimer, who started their board roles on 1st June 2021.

Peter John Goulandris continues as Deputy Chairman, having been a BMA board member since the ship registry's launch in 1995. Chairman Simmons and her new board level colleagues were appointed by the Bahamian Minister of Transport and Housing on behalf of the Bahamian government.

Captain Dwain Hutchinson, BMA Chairman and CEO, welcomed the appointments, saying: "We're delighted to have the new board members in position for what promises to be a highly productive and successful 2022 for The BMA. Their collective insights, expertise and maritime industry experience will prove invaluable to our registry and to the Bahamian shipping sector."

# A Message from The Bahamas Shipowners Association (BSA)

# Seapeak rebrand starts with the renaming of The Seapeak Vancouver



**John Adams**  
The Bahamas Shipowners Association (BSA) Chairman

I have always found writing a message for the BMA Flag something enjoyable, being able to share thoughts on developments both in shipping as such, but of course also on our relationship with the Bahamas Maritime Authority and the work of the Bahamas Shipowners Association.

This time I find it more difficult. As the world was slowly coming out of the pandemic and we could finally see better chartered waters ahead, we are hit on an everyday basis by news of the devastating situation in the Ukraine following the Russian invasion. We had only just started to get back to a bearable situation where we again were able to carry out crew changes and repatriation on a half regular basis.

Without touching on the humanitarian crisis in the Ukraine and effects of this, I would like to turn my attention to the situation of our seafarers and in particular our Ukrainian and Russian crewmembers. Many of you will already be aware that approximately 14% of seafarers in the world shipping fleet are either Ukrainian or Russian. From this follows that many of us as Shipowners and Managers will be directly affected by the war, ranging from the psychological situations for those seafarers onboard and the situation in mixed crews to the most basic and important issues such as payment of salaries and repatriation. There are of course also issues of great financial importance such as joint ownership, cargoes and class which are all issues demanding our immediate attention following the sanctions against Russia.

Throughout the pandemic owners Flagged with the Bahamas have enjoyed the fantastic support of The BMA under the leadership of Capt. Dwain Hutchinson. We have seen a very pragmatic approach to supporting owners and managers, examples of this are how administrative processes have been digitalised, inspections have been done remotely, and certificates for both seafarers and ships have been extended. During the periods of lockdowns around the world, The BMA as such has continued with business as usual and even stepped up their game – and we eagerly await the publication of the new Merchant Maritime Act.

During winter the BSA and BMA had a meeting with the US Coast Guard, and although far from all of you will have ships calling on US ports, the information we received at the meeting is very positive indeed. Bahamas flagged ships are still on the Qualship 21 scheme and now over a third of ships on the even more stringent eZero scheme are Bahamas flagged. This of course shows the high quality of crews, ships and management; your crews, ships and your hard work on maintaining those very high standards. This was further underlined by the recently published ICS Flag Comparison Table, where the Bahamas ranked top among the world flags.

The BSA is continually striving to provide its Members with the best possible support. We do this through working closely with The BMA and through the International Chamber of Shipping, where we play an important role. Something which I have addressed before, is my role as Chair of the ICS Long-term Measures Working Group, through which we have formulated the ideas for proposals to the IMO on the Research and Development Fund, the IMRB, and MBMs as ways to reach the targets of the IMO GHG Strategy. Also, the BSA Manager Anders Brodje, represents us at the numerous ICS Committees, Sub-committees, and Panels, but also attends meetings with the ILO and IMO. I know Anders is constantly seeking input from Members on issues to be discussed at the ICS, and I strongly encourage Members to use this channel to raise matters which need the attention of the ICS and the international regulatory bodies such as the IMO and ILO. I know Anders has supported numerous Members during the pandemic, in particular crewing issues, where he has worked through the ICS to reach the ITF central body as well as through the international network of other Shipowners Associations around the world.

In closing, I would like to thank you all for your hard work and determination to keeping the very high level of quality associated with the Bahamas flag – this is extremely valuable to all of us. I would also urge you to stay focused on the situation of our seafarers, not only those still affected by the pandemic, but also those more recently so hardly hit by the war in Ukraine. Please do your outmost in this very pressed situation.



**Chris McDade**  
Vice President, Operations  
Seapeak



Further to the recent acquisition of Teekay LNG Partners L.P. by US Investment Firm, Stonepeak, the re-brand as Seapeak is well underway with the first vessel re-naming ceremony complete.

The Seapeak Vancouver was the first Fleet vessel to be re-branded with the new logo and new company colours, as celebrated at the re-naming ceremony in Dubai on 09 March.

Over the coming months, Seapeak will be revealing more of their new brand, including the re-naming of additional vessels and re-design of the website, social media profiles and external communications.

Their new digital home will be at: [www.seapeak.com](http://www.seapeak.com)

As the VP of Gas Operations, Chris McDade commented: “During the significant change and transition preparations over the last few months, we have continued to deliver our highest level of operations, with no interruption to service or standards. Our People remain our biggest asset and for that reason we have retained our seafarers, operational

teams, management systems, processes and procedures. From an operations perspective, it will be very much ‘business as usual’”.

Seapeak’s commitment to safe and efficient operations has been a key success factor. Through their partnership with Stonepeak, Mr. McDade added that he expected this will extend even further.

“With an experienced operations team, best-in-class management and now, access to competitively priced capital for both fleet renewal and potential future growth, we can start to have the outlook you’d expect from a young and agile new brand. We’re passionate about innovation, diversification and building for a sustainable future.”

Seapeak are incredibly excited for the future and, as part of that, a continued positive relationship with the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA).



# BMA Asia interview with Tanker Shipping and Trade



Capt. Jahangir Hussain  
Regional Director - ASIA

While Singapore often takes centre stage as the regional hub, Hong Kong has long held a strong position due to its long-term links with shipping and the powerhouse that is China. The BMA set up its Hong Kong office in 2010 and has been steadily expanding across the region. The BMA has built up a strong reputation for taking care of high value assets and is prominent in the cruise and tanker sector, including FLNGs and LNG dual-fuel vessels.

As part of its expansion drive, The BMA has announced the signing of an agreement in 2022 with Ben Line Agencies to establish representation in South Korea, one of the world's leading shipbuilding and ship-owning nations to strengthen its presence there beyond its authorised Inspectorate and Recognised Class Societies so as to enhance its quality service delivery. The agreement is further aligned to The BMA's strategic objective of strengthening its global representation through the expansion of the Authority's base within the Asian region.

BMA's Managing Director and CEO, Captain Dwain Hutchinson, said: "The BMA has ambitious plans to cultivate a presence in the major shipping centres of the world, both to ensure continual improvement in the delivery of services to its valued customers and to accelerate the pace of business growth. This agreement with Ben Line progresses the Authority's critical business plan while strengthening The Bahamas' presence and we look forward to continuing to provide quality maritime services to our customers globally."

The BMA's Regional Director and the main point of contact for activities within Asia, Captain Jahangir Hussain, said: "South Korea is one of the world's key maritime nations and we are very pleased to have another dedicated representative in the region who can help us ensure that our clients in the country receive the highest possible levels of service."

Speaking to Tanker Shipping & Trade, Capt. Hussain explained the purpose of The BMA's long term presence in Asia and its affinity with LNG. "We do not target a specific sector," he said, "it (business) tends to come as a by-product of renowned quality service. We are one of the biggest players in LNG sector. The FLNG projects came to us on that basis recognising our expertise in that sector," he said.

Another benefit of the Bahamas flag is its record with Port State Control (PSC). As a flag, it also has the QUALSHIP 21 status (a US Coast Guard initiative to identify high-quality ships, and provide incentives to encourage quality operations quality shipping for the 21st century). The Bahamas is one of the top of the Paris and Tokyo Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) whitelists which are industry standards of quality performance and benefits Bahamas flagged ships operating in Europe and Asia region respectively.

"The Bahamas also holds a Preferential Maritime Agreement with China," added Capt. Hussein, "Any vessel, which is Bahamas flag and visiting a Chinese port, will receive a 28% discount on all Chinese dues."

This agreement has been in place since 2003 and The BMA, being a Bahamas government owned entity, is able to extend the benefits of the agreement to ships on The Bahamas Registry. The agreement was developed to reinforce

and enhance the relationship between the two countries and provides that shipowners of both nations are granted 'most favoured nation' status in respect of port access, port stay and use of port facilities. As part of the agreement, Chinese authorities will actively work to expedite processes such as customs procedures and other port formalities to avoid unnecessary delays to Bahamas ships and certificates of registry and other ship's documents are recognised by Chinese authorities and there is an assurance of proper and fair treatment of crew members and that seafarer identification and record books recognised.

The Bahamas remains active within the regulatory process including taking leadership roles at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and International Labour Organisation (ILO) where we collaborate with industry bodies and other strategic partners, including Bahamas Shipowners Association, INTERTANKO, OCIMF, International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) amongst others to ensure goal based regulations that can be effectively implemented by all parties. We are proud that the Bahamas has been confirmed as a top-performing flag state, achieving positive scores across all 19 categories in the recent ICS's 2020-21 Flag State Performance Table.



## The BMA expands its operations in Asia

# BMA announces agreement for representation in South Korea



Dong-su Kim  
Ben Line Country Manager  
BMA Representative in Korea

Seoul | Korea



Ben Line Agencies is a regional maritime and logistics provider and has been working in the Asia Pacific region for over 150 years. Employing over 1300 staff across 16 countries in Asia, Ben Line Agencies has developed one of the largest on the ground networks in the ship agency business.

Dong-su Kim, the Ben Line's Country Manager in South Korea, said: "Ben Line Agencies is delighted to be representing The BMA in South Korea and we see good prospects to expand this presence in an important shipowning market. We look forward to introducing The BMA's strong credentials to more South Korean shipowners, showcasing the value that can be derived from the Authority's service offering."

Busan Port - South Korea



# The BMA: steering towards a sustainable future



**Capt. Dwain Hutchinson**  
Managing Director and  
CEO of The BMA

As challenges go, significantly cutting the shipping industry's carbon footprint by 2050 is a big one. A sector powered by fossil fuels must learn to build a new generation of vessels that harness greener energy such as hydrogen or ammonia.



In line with the IMO World Maritime theme for 2022, New technologies for Greener Shipping, making maritime more sustainable in the coming years will require commitment and a huge amount of investment through research and development and training to achieve what Captain Dwain Hutchinson believes is one of shipping's greatest tests.

Nevertheless, the CEO and Managing Director of BMA is confident his organisation will help steer the industry towards a more sustainable and greener future.

"We are determined that The BMA will continue to play a crucial role on the international stage as a leader with proactive engagement in the global consideration of measures and requirements to address pollution from ships, particularly through our membership and participation in the meetings of the International Maritime

Organisation," Capt Hutchinson says. "Every decision that we take is aligned to one of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Whether relating to climate action, life below water or good health and wellbeing, all form a vital part in our regulatory mantra as a committed and responsible flag state."

Capt Hutchinson adds that shipping companies must join forces to tackle climate change. "In these challenging times, we understand and support the need for the maritime community to work together," he says. "As we begin to move on from COVID-19, we look forward to a future where the environment once again takes centre stage."

"We must all work collaboratively towards sustainability and a rewarding future. Along with our partners, we support the targets set at COP26 to make maritime an eco-friendly

industry, such as developing green vessels that run on clean rather than fossil fuels. We are now reviewing those goals and discussing with our ship owners and other strategic partners how to achieve them on a global scale." Since committing to making shipping more sustainable, The BMA has launched or partnered with maritime companies on initiatives aimed at decarbonising an industry that accounts for around 3% of global CO2 and greenhouse gas emissions.

"As the world's largest flag for passenger ships and LNG vessels, we are an ideal partner for owners with ships transporting or powered by LNG," Capt Hutchinson says. "We have a deep understanding and extensive knowledge of both sectors, and will continue advocating for their operators on international regulatory matters." In May 2021, The BMA welcomed its first Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) powered passenger ship, the Mardi Gras, to the

Flag. Mardi Gras, which can accommodate 5,200 people, is a Carnival Cruise Lines ship that operates out of Port Canaveral and regularly docks in The Bahamas.

At a regional level, The BMA joined the North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA) in February 2020. NAMEPA promotes a sustainable maritime industry by sharing best practices and educating seafarers and the public on how to protect oceans, lakes and rivers.

Through activity books, flyers and handouts, NAMEPA educates young people about the marine environment, pollution and how to prevent it, and the maritime industry. These resources are available to students, educators, parents, seafarers and industry professionals.

"Sustainability is a key issue for The BMA and we are keen to support any

organisation working to protect the marine environment," Capt Hutchinson says. "As a member of the organisation, this provides another forum for collaboration with leaders in industry, government, regulatory and environmental groups that share NAMEPA's sustainability goals to implement strategies to help save our seas."

Another example of how The BMA champions a greener shipping industry is the promotion of Eyesea, a mobile phone app for charting maritime pollution and hazards around the globe. Eyesea, a not-for-profit organisation, uses technology and the support of seafarers, shipowners, managers and maritime professionals to collect and process oceanic pollution data. Using the app, crewmembers can take a photo of the sea, which is automatically GPS-tagged and categorised according to pollution type. This data is then used to build

detailed maps and charts of polluted areas.

As an Ambassador and Officer of Eyesea, Capt Hutchinson helps to raise awareness of maritime pollution. "we are honoured to be able to play my part in promoting Eyesea," he says. "We work with other bodies, such as NAMEPA, which has partnered with Eyesea, to build this vital world map of marine pollution."

For Capt Hutchinson, The BMA's goal is to continue driving sustainability in shipping by registering more green vessels under the Bahamian flag, launching further initiatives and establishing new partnerships.

"We have upheld our promise to steer shipping towards a more sustainable future, but the industry has much to do to become carbon neutral. For us, that means The BMA will continue playing a major part in making maritime clean and green."

# Every Action Counts!



**Carleen Lyden Walker**  
IMO Goodwill  
Maritime Ambassador  
NAMEPA

*We are thrilled that The BMA are proud Ambassadors of NAMEPA*



[www.namepa.net](http://www.namepa.net)

There are a staggering 5.25 trillion macro and micro pieces of plastic in our oceans, which equates to 46,000 pieces in every square mile of ocean, weighing up to 269,000 tons. Even more shocking, every day an estimated 8 million pieces of plastic make their way into our oceans.

With numbers that large, how can we even make an impact? At NAMEPA we believe, quite simply, by one action at a time. Every individual plays a critical role and through education on the devastating effects of marine pollution, individuals are increasingly making the commitment to the 5 R's: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose. To eliminate as much single-use plastic from your daily lives as possible – the less waste produced, the less waste at risk of entering our waterways.

### Refuse and Reduce

By shifting habits to consistently utilize reusable water bottles, and reusable bags and containers – for everything from snack storage and lunches, to shopping bags – waste produced by humans can be further reduced by drastic amounts. Nearly one trillion single-use plastic bags are used annually on a planet with approximately 8 billion people. That's nearly 2 million every minute. Globally, more than half a billion plastic straws are used every day and more than 16 billion disposable coffee cups are used each year. Make the minor investment in collapsible reusable straws, coffee cups, and cutlery for on-the-go reusable options. When reusable options are not available, always be sure to recycle or repurpose items.

### Recycle and Repurpose

A brief review of your local recycling program's website will act as a guide to prevent recycling contamination. Repurpose items at the end of their intended life, like using old toothbrushes for clothing stain removal and cleaning. More than 3.5 billion plastic toothbrushes are manufactured and discarded every year – that equates to more than 175 million pounds of plastic waste, that will take more than 1,000 years to decompose, being added to our planet every year. While toothbrushes are not

accepted in municipal single-stream recycling programs, programs like TerraCycle have begun to address the issue of recycling plastic toothbrushes, although not at the necessary rate. A better option would be to select a bamboo toothbrush – just as effective, but will decompose in 5-10 years, or approximately 6 months if composted (just be sure to remove the nylon bristles before disposing!).

### Educate and Activate

Share your knowledge with others – as individuals are educated on alternatives and commit to being part of the solution, the reductions add up quickly. With nearly 8 billion people on the planet, if every individual commits to even a single change in refusing single-use items, and choosing to reuse, thereby reducing their own individual waste, we could significantly slow the hemorrhage of plastic and waste that is flowing into our waterways, while simultaneously working to remedy the existing damage. Always dispose of cigarette butts properly and never throw them on the ground, where they are washed into storm drains and end up in the ocean. Cigarette butts are the most common type of beach litter, are often mistaken for food and eaten by marine animals making them sick, can take 25 years to break down, and negatively impact global water quality. Not to mention that no one wants to spend time at a beach covered in cigarette butts!

When you see litter, make the effort to pick it up (if you drive, keep a trash bag and reusable rubber gloves in your car to keep it sanitary!), and better yet, organize local groups for area clean-ups. Litter along roadways and in parks, as well as along shorelines, frequently ends up waterways, and by organizing an afternoon clean-up, a tremendous impact can be made in just a few hours. Sports teams, Scout Groups, and clubs are all easy places to start when organizing a local clean-up. It builds relationships within the community, while all working toward the common goal of a cleaner planet for everyone. By leading the way and setting the example, it inspires action in others.



### Maritime Industry Leaders

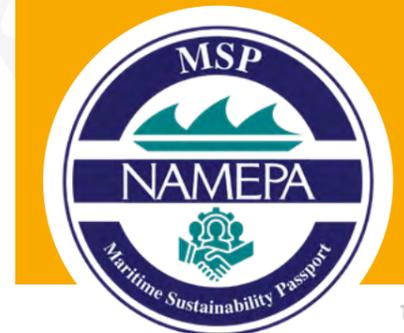
While NAMEPA Corporate Members frequently organize maritime and beach clean-ups in their local areas, they are taking it a step further, as leaders in their industry. NAMEPA member, P Ship Systems, is reducing global plastic use by utilizing technology to repurpose ship's evaporated water and turn it into high-quality, safe, drinking and cooking water for global fleets, eliminating the need for single-use plastic bottled water. A pioneer of environmental conservation in the maritime industry, SIEM Ship Management's efforts to reduce harmful emissions is moving the maritime industry towards a true green future. The ACTION Group's dedication to advising, certifying and training their customers, is paving the way for a more efficient, safer, compliant and cleaner maritime industry. In 2021, NAMEPA teamed up with member and sponsor organization, Fairfield Chemical Carriers, and the City of Norwalk, Connecticut, for World Ocean's Day as the lead up to the United Nation's "Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development". In the current decade, from 2021-2030, the UN will work to strengthen international involvement in oceanic scientific research and technology, closely aligning to NAMEPA's mission. Fairfield Chemical Carriers strives to help protect the ocean and engage in sustainable work practices. By focusing cleanup efforts along the Norwalk River, an artery to the Long Island Sound and the Atlantic Ocean, the collaboration between the community, global corporate engagement, and local government, decreased the amount of waste that could travel down the river and into the ocean.

### NAMEPA's CSR/ESG Maritime Sustainability Passport

Additionally, companies within the maritime sector have the unique opportunity to join NAMEPA to Save Our Seas, and several have already obtained, or are on the path to obtaining, the coveted Maritime Sustainability Passport (MSP) Certificate and Seal, the only of its kind within the maritime industry. The MSP is independently certified by renowned global consulting company, ESGplus, and is awarded to organizations who meet the requirements encompassed in each of NAMEPA's six Transparency Pillars in its Corporate Social Responsibility/Environmental, Social and Governance (CSR/ESG) metrics.

The societal awareness, and subsequent demands on companies to also act as stewards of our planet, in addition to the commitment from individuals, is making a difference toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals set forth by the United Nations in 2015. These 17 goals are integrated, recognizing that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. Goal #14: Life Below Water is certainly of particular interest to us at NAMEPA. The world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents and life – drive global systems that make our planet habitable for

humans. There are more than three billion people on the planet that depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods. With 30% of the world's fish stocks overexploited, we are below the level at which they can produce sustainable yields for human consumption. In addition, nearly 30% of the carbon dioxide produced by humans is absorbed by our oceans, which is having a devastating effect on the chemical composition of our oceans, with a 26% rise in ocean acidification since the start of the industrial revolution. As more corporations commit to reducing their carbon footprints and greenhouse gas emissions, we can slow the acidification of our seas. Our oceans are part of our global commons, reaching everyone on the planet, either directly or indirectly and how we manage this vital resource is essential for humanity. Through action at every level, inspired by individuals, reverberating through communities, and innovatively led by corporations, we all have a role to play in achieving our global goal of ensuring the waterways that are the cradle of life on our planet, remain for generations to come.



# The United States Coast Guard once again recognises the quality of The Bahamas Flag



**Stephen Keenan**  
Head of Inspections  
& Surveys

The Bahamas has once again met the requirements of the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Qualship 21 programme (Quality Shipping for the 21st Century). The Flag's consistent adherence to quality ensures its continued high-ranking performance.

The USCG 'Qualship 21' list recognises the quality of Bahamas registered ships, their owners, managers, and crew, operating to and from United States ports. The Bahamas always strives for zero detentions but had 4 detentions in 2021 out of all the US port state inspections of Bahamas flagged ships – this brings The Bahamas' 3-year rolling average detention ratio in the USA to 0.60%, well below the Qualship 21 qualifying criteria of 1.0%. In fact, The Bahamas remains one of the top of the 'White-list' flag States within the port state control regimes of the Paris MoU and Tokyo MoU.

Captain Dwain Hutchinson, MD & CEO said: "We are delighted with this achievement and would like to thank all of our Owners, Managers and crew onboard Bahamas registered ships whose keen attention to quality has made this possible. It is key for The BMA to be recognised as a leading flag within the United States and the figures released by the US Coast Guard underline the excellence of our service and our ships."

It's not only The BMA team that have been instrumental in this achievement but also its

Recognised Organisations and Nautical Inspectors. Of equal importance are the shipboard crew of Bahamian ships who, despite the challenges of COVID-19, have all played their part in maintaining and operating the ship and its equipment to the required standards. The support and advice that The BMA provides to Owners to assist them with port state control and regulatory compliance issues, as well as the regular flag state inspections, statutory audits and surveys of the fleet that are undertaken, ensure their ships comply in all respects with the international conventions and so uphold the reputation of The Bahamas.

Stephen Keenan, BMA's Deputy Director, Head of Inspections & Surveys, is delighted with The BMA's performance. "Our detention ratio is one of the best of all the open registries and is testament to our clients and our team. I would also like to recognise the invaluable role played by the USCG in keeping vessels and crew safe in US waters through the application of stringent safety criteria, and the continued focus on high standards by the Companies operating, and seafarers serving on board, Bahamian ships."



**Qualship 21,  
Whitelist and  
Low Risk Flag  
Status**  
in Paris, Tokyo MoU

# The Bahamas continues to be at the forefront of safety initiatives in the offshore sector

The BMA is proud to be part of a working group, brought together by one of The Bahamas recognised Classification Societies, American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), which is aimed at addressing the safety challenges resulting from the ageing Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) fleet. More than half of these vessels are over 30-years-old and a quarter more than 40.

Working jointly with a number of stakeholders including shipowners and regulators from the US Coast Guard, The BMA looks forward to playing a major role in developing strategies for ensuring that these vessels remain structurally sound and effectively maintained to ensure the safety of those working onboard and sustain the environment of the region of operation. The working group has established a number of Joint Industry Projects, in which The BMA is actively engaged, to assess novel techniques. These include composite materials repairs, life extension of wire ropes, gauging management software, applications of photogrammetry,

use of 3D Lidar Laser Scanning and the role of artificial intelligence in corrosion analysis. Stephen Keenan, Head of Inspections & Surveys Department at The BMA, said: "This is an opportunity for all of the stakeholders to come together, bringing all their expertise and resources into play, so that we can ensure FPSOs remain safe for seafarers, and environmentally sustainable, in the future. The BMA has worked continuously to improve the safety of our industry, so this is an initiative that we are very pleased to support through our participation."

The Bahamas is the leading ship registry for FPSOs, with over 45 units registered.



# The BMA recognises its first seafarer mental health training course



**Capt. Jerry Mooney**  
Technical & Compliance  
Officer, Seafarers & Manning  
Department

The BMA announces that it has recognised the Seafarer Mental Health Awareness and Wellbeing course offered by Isca Wellbeing as complying with the requirements set out by The BMA. This is both the first mental health course, and also the first non-STCW, or other convention-related, course that The BMA has recognised.

The training, which is based on the Maritime Charities Group (MCG) Mental Health Awareness & Wellbeing Training Standard, has been designed specifically for seafarers to help them to understand the different types of mental health disorders and their causes. It enables participants to recognise changes in behaviour in themselves and in others and gives guidance as to how to respond to these changes and where to find assistance and support. Finally, the course demonstrates the '5 Ways to Wellbeing' – a pathway that will help seafarers to promote their own mental wellbeing.

Both seafarers and shore-based personnel are already feeling the benefits from participation in the course with feedback showing that 100% of delegates now have the knowledge to recognise signs of poor mental health in themselves and others, and that they now know how to respond if a colleague or seafarer is facing a mental health crisis. The BMA has long taken a proactive stance on the wellbeing of seafarers, and launched the Seafarer COVID-19 Welfare Survey, in the Summer of 2021 and so was eager to give recognition to a training course which would be of benefit to seafarers worldwide, not just those flagged with The BMA but also the wider industry. Although not a requirement

of The BMA, the flag is pleased to be able to bring it to the attention of crews and their owners.

Capt Jerry Mooney, Technical & Compliance Officer in The BMA's Seafarers & Manning Department, said: "It made perfect sense for The BMA to consider Isca Wellbeing's approach regarding course recognition. As can be seen with our Mental Health Survey (run in collaboration with researchers at the University of Washington) we are already leading ship registries in promoting the importance of Seafarer's Mental Health. Now, with our recognition of Isca Wellbeing's Mental Health Training, we can also show that we are intent on doing something about it. Seafarers are the life blood of the world's trade and we must ensure they are cared for."

COVID-19 has undoubtedly exacerbated the mental health challenges for seafarers who, even prior to the pandemic, were already showing the effects of long periods away from loved ones, isolation, trouble sleeping, rough seas, quality of food, cultural differences onboard and job insecurity. The development of a course to help address these issues could not come too soon.



**John Burden**  
Managing Director  
ISCA Wellbeing

John Burden, Managing Director of Isca Wellbeing said: "There are some very good services that respond to seafarers who are in need, but we wanted to offer a more proactive approach and have pulled together a highly qualified team to create the Seafarer Mental Health Awareness and Wellbeing course. Everyone involved has a connection to maritime and understands the unique challenges of life at sea – our operational team also run a crewing agency, and our mental health trainers have a personal connection to this industry that we love.

"We approached The BMA with the course as we had identified The Bahamas as a flag with a particular interest in the mental health and wellbeing of its crew and as an authority which shares our ethos. The 2-day course, which is delivered either via Zoom or in person, complements our existing service in which we provide weekly mental health training and support videos to over 15,000 seafarers. We are delighted that The BMA has recognised the course and look forward to starting to work with its crews, educating them on mental health and how to look after their wellbeing, whether at sea or on dry land."



# Paris MoU ranking consolidates The Bahamas' position as a top registry



**Stephen Keenan**  
Head of Inspections & Surveys



The 2021 performance listings of the Paris MoU once again place The Bahamas in the top echelons of the White List, consolidating the flag's recognition by the United States Coast Guard through its Qualship 21 programme.

The pandemic has created challenges for the entire maritime sector, but The BMA has made use of technology to ensure that ships registered in The Bahamas continue to be operated and managed efficiently and safely. The support and advice that The BMA provides to Owners and Managers to assist them with port state control and regulatory compliance issues, as well as the regular flag state inspections, statutory audits and surveys of the fleet that have been undertaken remotely during the past year, ensure its ships comply in all respects with the international conventions and so uphold the reputation of The Bahamas.

It's not only The BMA team that have been instrumental in this achievement as this is very much a collaborative effort with its Recognised Organisations, Nautical Inspectors, Owners and Managers. Of equal importance is the shipboard

crew who, despite the challenges of COVID-19, have continued to maintain and operate the vessels and their equipment to the required standards with the result being demonstrated in the quality performance standards achieved.

Stephen Keenan, Deputy Director Inspections and Surveys Department at The BMA, said: "We are very pleased to note that The Bahamas remains in the top 10 flag States in the Paris MoU White List for the 7th consecutive year. To have maintained our Top 10 position in such a difficult year is a testament to the owners and managers of Bahamian ships and their masters, officers and crew. We take the opportunity to express our gratitude to them, and to thank our Recognised Organisations, Inspectors and staff, for their continuous commitment to maintaining standards at the highest level."



The Bahamas welcomes the world's biggest ship

Team ship visit, Capt. Frank McNulty, Technical & Compliance Officer and Alessandro Lo Piccolo, Assistant Director BMA Inspections & Survey Department.



**Alessandro Lo Piccolo**  
Assistant Director  
Inspections & Surveys  
Department

## The Bahamas welcomes the world's biggest ship

The Bahamas is without doubt the flag of choice for the world's largest passenger ships after it welcomed the world's newest wonder, Wonder of the Seas to its register.

Built at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in Saint-Nazaire, the 236,857gt vessel, featuring 18 decks with a capacity of 9288 persons and accommodation for up to 6,988 guests and 2300 crew members, is the largest of Royal Caribbean Group's Oasis class cruise ships.

All of the Oasis class vessels - the 226,838gt Oasis of the Seas; the 225,282gt Allure of the Seas; the 226,963gt Harmony of the Seas; the 228,081gt Symphony of the Seas and now the Wonder of the Seas - are registered with The Bahamas flag.

A sixth vessel, due to be delivered in the fourth quarter of next year, is also expected to join The Bahamas flag.

Welcoming the addition of the Wonder of the Seas to The Bahamas flag, Alessandro

Lo Piccolo, Assistant Director Inspections & Surveys Department at The BMA, said, "It now means that 28 out of the world's 50 largest passenger vessels by gross tonnage, are registered with The Bahamas.

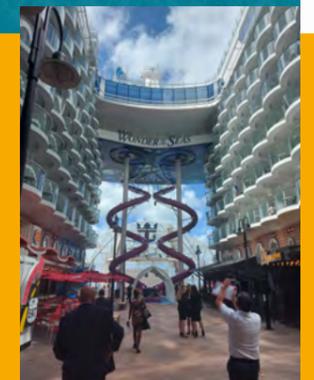
"We are delighted that Royal Caribbean have once again put their faith in The Bahamas. We look forward to welcoming the sixth Oasis class vessel to our flag in the coming months, and continuing to support RCCL on the development of the novel design elements of the upcoming Icon class.

"For us it has been really good to be involved with the Oasis class vessels from the start, in particular the Oasis of the Seas which was ground-breaking in her own right when she was delivered. We are proud to have these vessels under our flag," he said.

### Event

March 2022

The BMA joined RCCL's debut and inaugural arrival of the world's largest cruise ship in Nassau - Wonder of the Seas.



# Safer pilot boarding arrangements on Bahamas flagged vessels



**Capt. Kapila Malawwethanthri**  
 Technical & Compliance Officer  
 Inspections & Surveys  
 Department

From 1st July 2021 to 31st December 2021, The BMA carried out a Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Pilot Transfer Arrangements. This campaign involved Authorized Nautical Inspectors of The BMA, Vessel Crew, Ship Management companies and industry experts.

The campaign was conducted under the coordination of the Inspection and Survey Department of the BMA London Office. BMA Safety Alert 2021-01 was issued in January 2021 to advise registered Vessels, Managers and Owners of a campaign recently completed by the International Maritime Pilots Association highlighting common defects. Inspector training video on the BMA training portal, guidelines (BMA Information Notice 18 issued in March 2021) and a CIC questionnaire (BMA Technical Alert TA 009 issued in July 2021) were employed to educate, encourage, and evolve the campaign and the Inspectors in its prosecution towards a better outcome for vessels on the flag.

During the campaign, a total of 258 inspections were carried out with the CIC questionnaire involving 258 individual ships managed by 99 companies around the world. Of this quantity, a total of 103 deficiencies were identified in four deficiency categories defined. This means, that in 64 cases on 64 different vessels the pilot transfer arrangements were not meeting SOLAS requirements and had deficiencies which were serious enough to require rectification by the ship.

A total of 64 questionnaires had at least one non-compliance to a requirement, representing 24.8% of vessels out of the total inspected. The overall average number of non-conformities per inspection was 0.4.

The most notable non-conformities observed were lack of load testing of the ladders used over 30 months in accordance with the requirements of ISO 799-1:2019, including discrepancies in ladder certifications and ladder step tags (48%), followed by deficiencies found in pilot ladder rigging (25%) and construction (25%).

A total of 43 CIC inspections on Bulk Carriers, followed by Oil and Chemical Tankers with 41 inspections, General Cargo with 37 inspections, Gas carriers (LNG/LPG) with 33 inspections, Reefer vessels with 28 inspections, Passenger and Ro-Ro vessels with 20 inspections, Car Carriers with 15 inspections and Container vessels with 13 inspections, done mainly by the BMA authorized flag inspectors (238 inspections, 93%).

The highest number of deficiencies found from Passenger/ Ro-Ro vessel category totalling 22 deficiencies which was a 21.4% deficiency

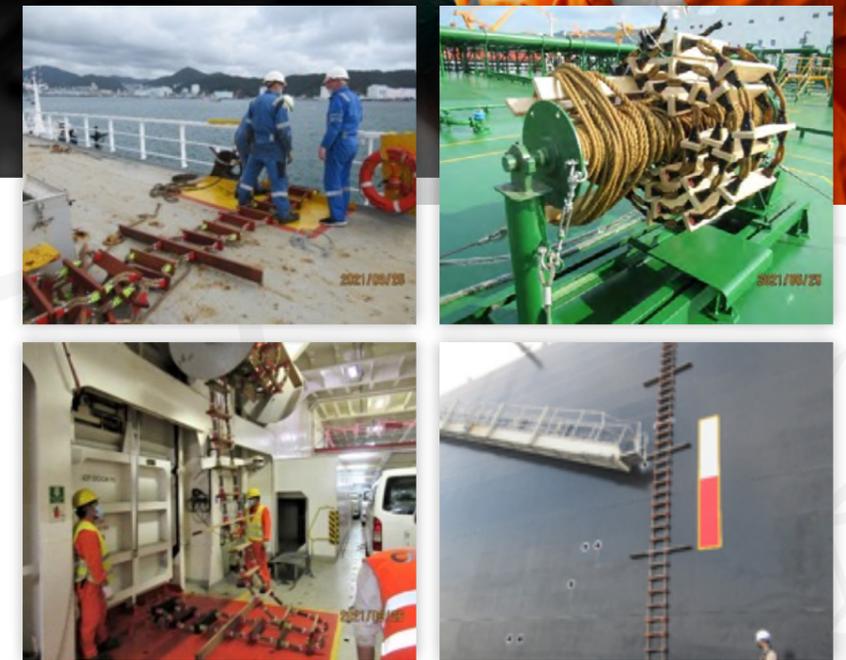
## Deficiencies by category



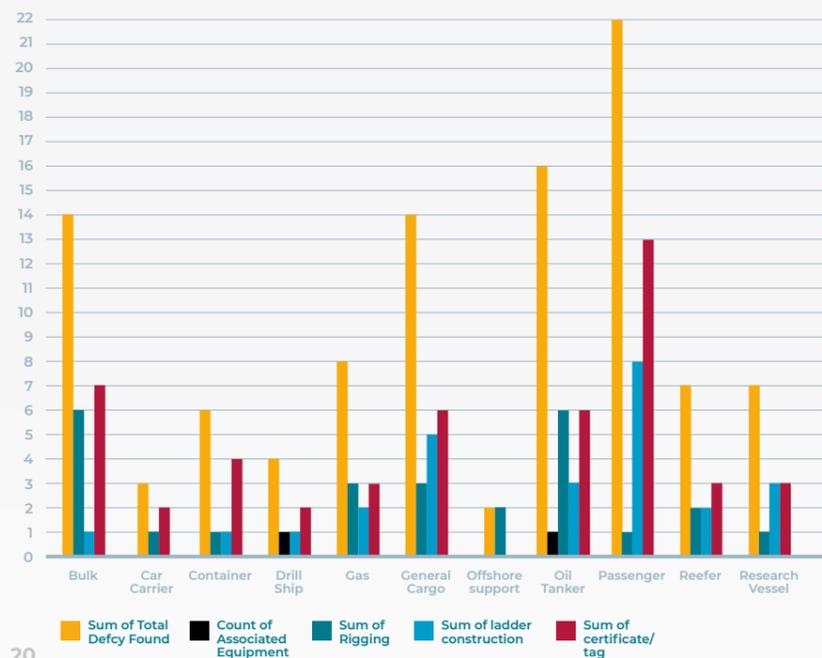
contribution, followed by Oil Tankers/ Chemical Tankers with 16 deficiencies (15.5%) and General Cargo and Bulk Vessels with equal number of 14 deficiencies (13.6% each).

Passenger/ RO-RO vessels, the vessel category with the highest number of deficiencies (22) found lack of ladder certification/load testing after 30 months use as the highest deficiency category (13 cases). Oil Tankers/ Chemical Tankers, the vessel category with the second highest number of deficiencies (16) found equal number of deficiencies in ladder certification/load testing after 30 months use (6 cases) and rigging (6 cases).

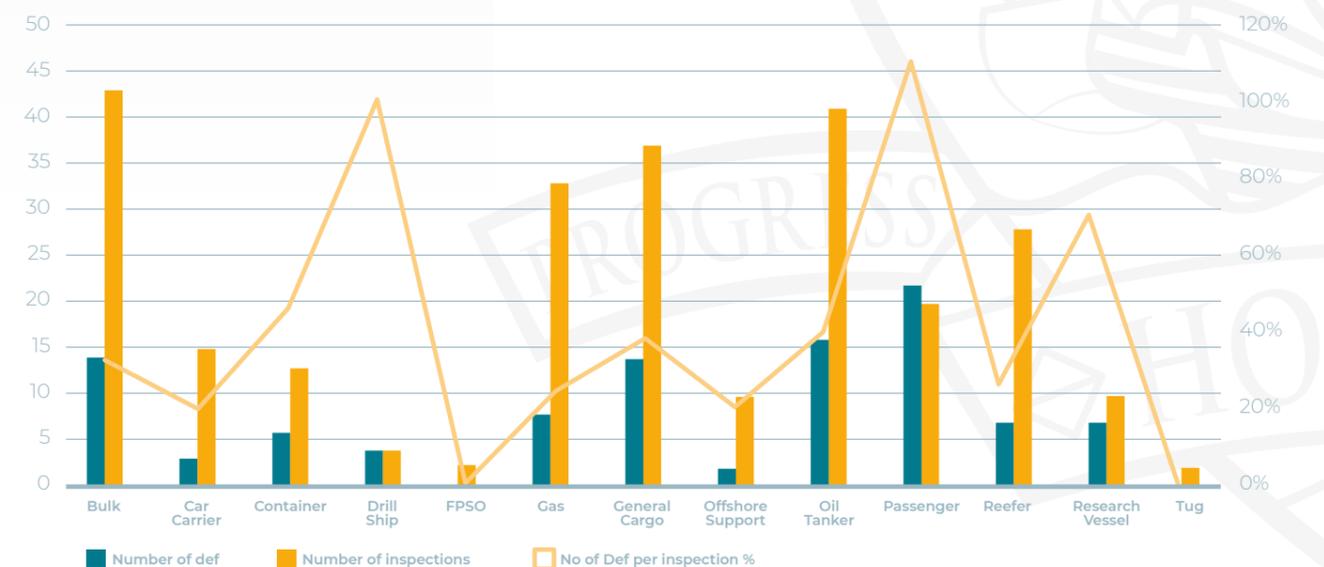
The campaign identified vessel technical managers with zero deficiencies found during the campaign as well as management companies with one or more deficiencies reported on their operated vessels. The purpose of profiling technical managers based on vessel performance is to compare the CIC results with annual PSC records for the flag, so as to calibrate our future inspection campaigns. We believe that we have positively contributed to the safety of pilots around the world through this concentrated campaign as a responsible flag administration.



## Deficiency categories in terms of vessel type



## No of deficiencies per inspection as a % by vessel category



# New STCW I/10 agreement coincides with confirmation of IMO Whitelist position for The Bahamas



**Capt. Oli Olsen**  
Deputy Director,  
Seafarers & Manning  
Department

The Bahamas is pleased to announce that it has maintained its position on the IMO Whitelist as the IMO Maritime Safety Committee at its 104 session has confirmed that The Bahamas has given full and complete effect to the STCW 78 Convention.

This positive news also coincides with The Bahamas signing a STCW 1978 Regulation I/10 Agreement with Barbados, Panama and Brunei. The agreement ensures that The Bahamas and these three countries each reciprocally recognise Certificates of Competency that are issued by the respective state.

By signing this agreement, The Bahamas' seafarers are afforded the opportunity for their certificates to be accepted and recognised by Barbados, Panama and Brunei and likewise certificates from Barbados, Panama and Brunei seafarers will be accepted and

recognised by The Bahamas, Panama and Brunei, providing seafarers from these whitelist countries the flexibility to accept employment on ships and yachts that are registered in the respective member state.

Captain Oli Olsen, Deputy Director, Seafarers & Manning Department at The BMA, said: "These agreements with Barbados will be of great benefit to the seafarers of both nations. We hope that it will be followed shortly by the establishment of similar reciprocal agreements with other whitelist countries."



## IMO Update

The BMA's Maritime Affairs Department has been actively engaged both at the IMO as well as Industry based meetings. These were a mixture of physical and virtual meetings.



**Capt. Ghulam Hussain**  
Deputy Director  
Maritime Affairs  
Department

In particular, The Bahamas has chaired nine rounds of the Correspondence Group on the Revision of the Code of Safety for Diving Systems (Resolution A. 831 (19)) and the guidelines and specifications for Hyperbaric Evacuation Systems (Resolution A.692(17)) and also chaired the Experts Group to carry this forward. Going ahead, we have been entrusted to continue with a second round of correspondence and it is expected that the revisions will take place after almost 20 years since its last revision. This proves our engagement on safety aspects for divers and vessels engaged in diving operations.

We have also submitted a paper for a revision to the IMSBC Code related to safe transport of fumigated cargo with emphasis on adoption of an international standard of occupational exposure limit values for safe use of pesticides in ships, following a very serious marine casualty where a crew member died.

The Bahamas has very actively engaged on matters related to pollution and greenhouse gas reduction, in line with the Flag's commitment to cleaner seas and mitigation to climate change. This is an ongoing process, and our commitment is to ensure there are fair and equitable steps forward which would be inclusive to all sectors and areas of shipping, with due recognition also being given to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). We remain aware that some specific genres of ships may fear being penalised for not meeting reduction targets, due to the nature of their operations. Mitigation efforts, by suggestion of correction factors, is supported by us and we will continue to bring this to the forefront.

The overall IMO strategy for greenhouse gas reduction is supported, and we are ready to face

the challenges ahead with respect to the proposed reduction targets as well as offering technical advice and support to our shipowners, who are considering alternative fuels to achieve the targets.

The Bahamas remains concerned with the challenges related to crew repatriation matters. Seafarers continue to face innumerable challenges in their work patterns, repatriation, mental health, fatigue, and well-being on board vessels. The Bahamas is proud to have declared seafarers as essential workers, in line with the recommendations from IMO and continues to work closely with the Seafarer Crisis Action Team (SCAT) established by IMO to help resolve individual cases. We also remain concerned for safety of the crew in piracy zones as well as the immense danger being faced by those who happen to be on vessels in areas of conflict and war.

2022 is expected to bring in further challenges within the changing geo-political landscape. Substantial agenda items will be discussed at the IMO, with the thrust being on greenhouse gas reduction and the pathway and timeline to achieve Net Zero. Closer to home, we will continue to contribute towards further development of maritime safety within the Caribbean.

The Bahamas will continue to represent its stakeholders and engage effectively and strongly in contributing towards maritime progress. We expect to contribute effectively towards "New Technologies for Greener Shipping", which is the World Maritime Theme for 2022.



# Welcoming some of The BMA's newly registered vessels

The Bahamas has a diverse fleet of vessels under its portfolio.

These include second hand vessels new to the register, unique vessels with innovative designs and cutting edge technology, vessels built and operated with the highest possible environmental and sustainability objectives, vessels which have participated in rescue efforts, older registered vessels which are managed to an

exceptionally high standard, conversions, vessels which are the first of their kind, either in design and innovation, technology and size.

We introduce a selection of our newly registered vessels and welcome all our new owners, operators and vessels.



**SILVER DAWN**  
Ship Type: Passenger  
Gross Tonnage: 40855



**COBALT EXPLORER**  
Ship Type: Drill Ship  
Gross Tonnage: 66429



**EMERALD AZZURRA**  
Ship Type: Passenger  
Gross Tonnage: 5315



**SAVANNA WIND**  
Ship Type: Refrigerated Cargo  
Gross Tonnage: 9791286



**WONDER OF THE SEAS**  
Ship Type: Passenger  
Gross Tonnage: 235600



**THORNBURY**  
Ship Type: Oil Tanker  
Gross Tonnage: 60135



**SANTORINI**  
Ship Type: Drill Ship  
Gross Tonnage: 60975



**OCEAN VICTORY**  
Ship Type: Passenger  
Gross Tonnage: 8181



**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC RESOLUTION**  
Ship Type: Passenger  
Gross Tonnage: 12786



**MPF3**  
Ship Type: FPSO  
Gross Tonnage: 202014



**ABYDOS**  
Ship Type: Yacht - Non Commercial  
Gross Tonnage: 372



**UNITY ENDEAVOUR**  
Ship Type: Bulk Carrier  
Gross Tonnage: 34617



# The Bahamas welcomes its first LNG powered passenger ship



**Felicia Alleyne**  
Registrar  
New York

The BMA enjoyed a landmark month in May 2021 when welcoming its first Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) powered passenger ship, the Mardi Gras, to the Flag.

Mardi Gras, a Carnival Cruise Lines ship that operates out of Port Canaveral, regularly docks in The Bahamas, giving her passengers and crew the opportunity to explore the islands and experience the renowned Bahamian hospitality.

When announcing the news, Captain Dwain Hutchinson, Managing Director and CEO of The BMA, said: "We are proud of our close collaboration and relationship with Carnival Cruise Line and we thank them for making The Bahamas their flag of choice for this innovative vessel.

"As the world's largest flag for passenger ships and LNG vessels, we are an ideal partner for owners with ships transporting or powered by LNG. We have a deep understanding and

extensive knowledge of both sectors, and will continue advocating for their operators on international regulatory matters."

Captain Hutchinson added that by registering an LNG-powered cruise ship, The BMA was taking action to support the IMO's sustainability goals.

Sailing the Mardi Gras under the Bahamian flag made strategic sense, according to Christine Duffy, President of Carnival Cruise Line.

"We are pleased to bring this new level of environmental sustainability to the many ports in The Bahamas and the Caribbean that the ship and our guests and crew will visit," she said.



# International Women's Day: Recognising women in maritime

For more than 100 years, the world has celebrated women's achievements and their incredible contribution to society, economics, culture, politics and business – including maritime.



Since the inaugural International Women's Day in 1911, women have helped build a shipping industry that keeps global business buoyant. Without it, the essential goods that we all rely on would never reach their intended destination.

While paying tribute, this year's event on 8 March urged everyone to 'Break The Bias' by removing the career barriers that prevent women from reaching their full potential. Each of us has the power to call out gender bias, discrimination and stereotyping within our own and other organisations across the maritime industry.

Encouraging more women to join shipping is key to creating a level playing field. Making the industry increasingly gender diverse can be a catalyst for more promotions, managerial roles or executive appointments involving females. The good news is that the number of female seafarers, who hold certificates issued under the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), have almost doubled in five years to 24,059 worldwide, according to the Seafarer Workforce Report 2021.

The trend for more women in maritime is reflected in The BMA's workforce, which boasts a strong gender balance of 51% females to 49% males. Their insights, expertise and dedication have given The Bahamas the foundations to build a globally

renowned, quality ship registry with an ever-growing international presence.

Another measure of shipping's growing appeal among women is The BMA Sponsored Bahamas Maritime Cadets Corps (BMCC) ([www.bahamasmaritimcadetcorps.com](http://www.bahamasmaritimcadetcorps.com)) with 65% of recruits on the 2020/22 course being female. For the 2019/20 intakes, five of the top seven cadets were women. We wish to encourage Bahamian female students who are considering their future career path to join the programme and commence their journey in this exciting and rewarding industry as there are ongoing measures for collaboration with shipowners/industry partners.

The BMA has female employees who are proud members of the Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA) ([www.wistainternational.com](http://www.wistainternational.com)), the global organisation that connects females and decision-makers around the world and which provides opportunities for local professional networking through WISTA Bahamas. At a regional level, there is further scope for engagement through Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WiMAC).

The expertise and competence of all the females at The BMA are testament to the incredible contribution that women make to this industry. We can inspire the next generation to follow in their footsteps by

promoting shipping, sharing stories and celebrating success on landmark dates such as 18 May which is the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) International Day for Women in Maritime. This recognition of females within this critical industry that sustains global growth aligns with the UN sustainability goal 5 – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (IMO and the Sustainable Development Goals) and is one that is wholeheartedly supported and endorsed by The Bahamas as a responsible and active IMO member state. Information on the IMO gender programme can be accessed through the IMO website <https://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/TechnicalCooperation/Pages/WomenInMaritime.aspx>

Women have long played a major role in building one of the world's leading maritime industries here in The Bahamas. Now it's time to give talented females more opportunities to steer shipping towards a bright and prosperous future.



**Hon. JoBeth Coleby-Davis MP**  
Minister of Transport & Housing



**Ms. Jacqueline M. Simmons**  
Chairman of The Board of Directors of The Bahamas Maritime Authority

# Recent Activities and Events

**BMA**  
ATTEND  
**Seatrade Cruise**  
**2022**



The BMA welcomed the opportunity to return to Seatrade Cruise Global 2022 in Miami. The BMA delegation was led by BMA Board Chairman, Jacqueline Simmons, who was joined by fellow board members Peter John Goulandris, Dario Lundy-Mortimer, LaMarque Drew and V. Moreno Hamilton, Minister of Transport & Housing Permanent Secretary Antoinette Thompson and BMA Managing Director & CEO Capt Dwain. Hutchinson, BMA Head of Nassau Office Katie Clarke, Assistant Director (Inspections & Surveys) Alessandro Lo Piccolo, BMA New York Registrar Felicia Alleyne and BMA Marketing Manager Charlotte Ward and Bahamas Shipowners Association Manager Anders Brodje.

**BMA - Proud Headline Sponsors of CLIA's Business on the Beach event at Seatrade Cruise Global**



## Bahamas delegation meet with clients at Seatrade Cruise



Bahamas Delegation presentation with Virgin Voyages



Bahamas Delegation presentation with Royal Caribbean International



Bahamas Delegation with Disney Cruise Line

## Bahamas delegation meeting with our classification societies



Bahamas Delegation with Bureau Veritas



Lloyd's Register Reception



Bahamas Delegation with DNV



Bahamas Delegation with RINA



BSA and BMA Luncheon at Seatrade

## BMA Board embark on a tour of the Port of Miami



## Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) Meeting – Nassau

The meeting was to strengthen the already existing MOU with the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF), and to streamline and improve the communication process. The RBPF currently reviews and approves applications for carriage of armed guards aboard Bahamas registered vessels.



## The BMA attend CMA Shipping



# Recent Activities and Events

## The BMA in Korea



Capt. Hussain with delegates from Dong-A Tanker Ltd



The Bahamas Maritime Authority is welcomed to Pan Continental Shipping Ltd



The BMA visits Keum Yang Shipping Co. Ltd



The BMA welcomed the chance to meet the team at SM LINE



The BMA meet with Hanaro Shipping Ltd



Capt. Hussain visits Pan Ocean Co. Ltd



The BMA pays a visit to Chang Myung Shipping Co. Ltd



The BMA visit delegates from Hyundai Glovis



Capt. Hussain with delegates from Namsung Shipping Ltd

## The BMA in Japan



Capt. Jahangir Hussain is welcomed to Class NK management



The BMA visits Kumiat Senpaku Co. Ltd



Capt. Jahangir Hussain visits Gearbulk



The BMA meets delegates from Mitsubishi Logistics Corporation



The BMA meets delegates from NYK LNG Ship Management



The BMA visit Koyo Kaiun Ltd



The BMA meets delegates from MOL LNG and MOL Lines



Capt. Hussain pays a visit to Mitsui Soko



Capt. Hussain visits Mr Makoto Tsuzuki from PGS Co. Ltd

## The BMA attend Marine Money London Ship Finance Forum 2022



Leon Dorsett at Marine Money - London

## The BMA attend Norshipping 4th - 7th April



Managing Director & CEO Captain Dwain Hutchinson and our Head of Seafarers & Manning Department Captain Oli Olsen represented The BMA.

Welcoming the opportunity to reconnect and engage in person with our industry partners and the maritime community in Norway as we build upon our COVID-19 experience and discuss positive change under the theme #ACTION.



## Opening new opportunities in the Pacific

Pictured are Gro Isadora Isaksen (middle) of Caiano/Green Reefers and Hans Mol (right) of Seatrade. The meeting took place 12/04/22 at our premises dedicated to discussion of future prospects to allow the Bahamian reefers a greater access to fisheries cargoes from regulatory areas around Central and Western Pacific Region.

## BMA - proud supporting sponsors at the 117th IMarEST Annual Dinner



## The BMA were proud sponsors of the 28th Annual HACC-NACC Shipping Conference

The Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) were proud sponsors of the 28th Annual HACC-NACC Shipping Conference – Out of the Abyss – Shipping Roars Back!

**Best Practices - The Business Case for Diversity**

Maritime SheEO Conference 2021

**Moderator**

- Guy Platten, Secretary General, International Chamber of Shipping
- Harald Solberg, CEO, Norwegian Ship Owners Association
- Capt. Dwain Hutchinson, MD & CEO, The Bahamas Maritime Authority
- Yogyata Kapoor, Director (Global Marketing and Business Development), ISF Group International Pte. Ltd.
- Heidi Heseltine, CEO, Halcyon Recruitment
- Geraldo A Boromeo, Vice Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, PTC Holdings Corporation
- Cristina Saenz de Santa Maria, Regional Manager (South East Asia, Pacific & India, Maritime), DNV

Virtual Conference November 23, 2021



**NOVEMBER**

**John Harrison, General Manager Fleet Operations, Chevron Shipping Company LLC, visits The BMA in London**

Chevron Shipping Company is a highly valued, longstanding client of The BMA. Mr Harrison (left) is pictured here receiving a 25th Anniversary memento from Stephen Keenan, Deputy Director of The BMA's Inspections & Surveys Department, in front of the picture of Chevron's Bahamas flagged LNG carrier ASIA ENDEAVOUR.



**DECEMBER**

**The BMA attends Lloyds List Greek Shipping Awards**

Friday 3rd December was an important date in the

Greek Shipping calendar as it saw the comeback of shipping's largest awards dinner – the Lloyds List Greek Shipping Awards. Attending on behalf of The BMA was Regional Director Dimitri Tsiftsis and his guest, Spiros Gkinis, Managing Director of Tri Bulk Shipping Ltd.

**DECEMBER**

**The Bahamas is re-elected to the IMO Council for 2022 – 2023**

The Bahamas was successfully re-elected to the IMO Council for the period 2022-2023, securing the 5th highest number of votes (out of 27 contestants) for Category C, which currently has a membership of 20 IMO Member States.



**NOVEMBER**

**Maritime SheEO - 'Best practices – the business case for diversity'.**

The BMA participated in the Maritime SheEO Conference 2021 for the second year!

**NOVEMBER**

**COP26 – The shipping industry is ready to play its part, and has identified solutions to address decarbonisation**

Capt. Dwain Hutchinson, comments, "My take away from the conference is that the shipping industry is

ready to play its part, and has identified solutions to address decarbonisation but... there should be global standards under the IMO remit, clarity of any requirements and no negative implication for first time movers. The positive collaboration between shipowners and seafaring bodies was recognised noting the key role of the human element in long term sustainability."



**NOVEMBER**

**Bahamas Minister of Transport & Housing meets IMO General Secretary in first official overseas engagement**

Following the general election in The Bahamas and the appointment of the Hon JoBeth Coleby-Davis as The Minister of Transport & Housing, The BMA was honoured that her first official engagement overseas was in London where she met the IMO Secretary General Kitack Lim.

**NOVEMBER**

**The Bahamas Maritime Authority is proud to sponsor the Annual Amver Awards**

The BMA were honoured

to once again sponsor the Awards with our Regional Director, Dimitri Tsiftsis (pictured below right) receiving The BMA's honorary plaque of recognition from Costis J Frangoulis, President of the Board of Governors of the International Propeller Club of Port of Piraeus.



**OCTOBER**

**Campbell Shipping visits The BMA in London**

The BMA was pleased to welcome Capt. Rajesh Dhadwal from Campbell Shipping in Nassau when he visited our London Head Office. It has been some time since in-person visits were the norm!



**Upcoming Events**



6 - 10 June	<b>Posidonia</b> <i>Athens, Greece</i>
6 - 10 June	<b>IMO MEPC</b> <i>78th session</i>
13 - 17 Jun	<b>Promotional Week</b> <i>Korea/Japan</i>
20 - 24 Jun	<b>Caribbean Port state Control Committee, Miami, USA</b>
21 - 23 Jun	<b>Marine Money New York, New York, USA</b>
25 Jun	<b>Day of Seafarers, Global</b>
28 Jun - 01 Jul	<b>Marintec China, Shanghai, China</b>
11 - 15 Jul	<b>IMO COUNCIL – 127th session</b>
05 Jul	<b>Greek Shipping Hall of Fame</b>
12 - 16 Sep	<b>IMO IMSO SES Conference (15-16)</b>
26 - 30 Sep	<b>IMO IMSO Assembly – 28th session</b>
26 - 30 Sep	<b>Bahamas Maritime Week</b>
29 Sep	<b>World Maritime Day</b>
26 - 30 Sep	<b>Fort Lauderdale Boat Show</b>
7 - 9 Oct	<b>Bari Shipping</b>



# Recent appointments and staff updates

We would like to extend our warmest welcome and wish the team every success in their new role, as we all strive to strengthen and grow the Authority.



## Larez Pinder

### Location: London Office

We are pleased to welcome Larez Pinder, as Technical Officer. Larez will be training in the various technical departments in the London office.



## Maria Manolakaki

### Location: Greece Office

We are pleased to welcome Maria Manolakaki who joins the Authority as an Administrative Assistant in the Registration Department.



## Nick Dowden

We are pleased to announce that Nick Dowden has been promoted to Assistant Director of The BMA's Investigations Department, with interim management of the Investigations team. We wish him every success in his new role!



# FAQ's

Here at the Bahamas we are asked numerous questions every day, although probably the most frequently asked is whether we ever go to The Bahamas? Sadly not for most of us!

Here are some of the questions that come up most frequently, of course there are countless more than we can show here but answers to many of the technical queries we receive can be found on our website [www.bahamasmaritime.com](http://www.bahamasmaritime.com). There you will also find expanded answers to some of those shown on this page.

## Registration Department

**? Which Bahamas registration form(s) require attesting and who is an acceptable witness for this process?**

The Bahamas Appointment of Authorised Officer Form R103, Mortgage Registration Form R208 and Bahamas Bill of Sale Form R209 must be executed and attested when presented.

The Declaration of Ownership Form R105 may be attested by an acceptable witness or signed in the presence of the Registrar of Bahamian Ships. The witness must be a disinterested party, independent of the body corporate or the individual executing it, such as a Notary Public, Consular Officer, Magistrate or Justice of Peace. A director, officer or employee of an owner that happens to be a body corporate should not be an attesting witness.

The witness should confirm the identity, capacity and authority of the signatory. Supporting documents will be required where the authority of the signatory is unconfirmed.

We recognise in some jurisdictions a Notary Public may not be authorised to attest a foreign document. It's acceptable to us if a Notary in another jurisdiction notarises the original Bahamas form(s).

**? Why must the period for insured Blue Cards on the Oil Pollution CLC, Bunker CLC and Wreck Removal Insurance Certificate match the dates of a vessel's registration or change of ownership/ship name?**

The flag administration has an obligation under the applicable Conventions to ensure the accuracy of the CLCs and insurance certificates that they issue for vessels. It's important that the Blue Cards submitted to us match the details for when the insurance period begins.

For new registrations, the period of insurance 'start' date should reflect the date the vessel is registered with the flag administration under the new ownership. If the 'start' date pre-dates the sale/delivery of the vessel and its immediate registration with the Bahamas under the new ownership, the Blue Card will not have the correct ownership and flag state information.

Likewise, we require correct information if, for example, ownership or the name of a Bahamas-flagged vessel changes.

We will accept Blue Cards issued with the applicable 'start' date for when the vessel's registration or named transaction was confirmed. In this instance, the Blue Cards would need to be forwarded to us by the insurer.



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