Multraship's Leendert Muller elected chairman of European Tugowners Association

Trieste, 8th June 2017

The European Tugowners' Association (ETA) has appointed Mr Leendert Muller as Chairman for a period of two years. Mr Muller, Managing Director of leading towage and salvage specialist Multraship, was confirmed as chairman at ETA's Annual General Meeting in Trieste, Italy, on 8 June. He succeeds Tug Malta's Chief Executive Mr Mario Mizzi. Prior to taking up this appointment Mr Muller was the Deputy Chairman of ETA since 2015.

ETA is the only association that represents the Tug sector at a European level, and is composed of 84 full members in 24 countries, who own or operate a combined fleet of over 850 tugs in European ports. Its membership ranges from major towage companies operating more than 100 tugs worldwide to family businesses and port authorities with very small-to-medium-size tug fleets.

"The fleets of ETA members provide a vital service, the importance of which can sometimes be underestimated. These vessels help keep world trade and the world fleet moving" says Mr. Muller.

"The following two years are going to be very testing for ETA members. In Europe and elsewhere, tug owners and operators will face a variety of challenges, including political, economic and environmental issues. The challenge for ETA members is to continue to invest in technology and manpower so that their vessels can operate safely and efficiently in the best interests of their customers. I am confident that, together, we will achieve that aim" concluded Mr. Muller.

ETA's work during the next two years will focus on the implementation of its strategic vision including creating further awareness of the towage sector at a European and International level; and of enhancing the service it gives to its members.

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