



Newsletter March 2019

ETA 2019 Conference to focus on the "Challenges and trends in Ports and Shipping"

As every year, the ETA Secretariat is organising a thematic conference within the framework of the Annual Meeting. In its 56th edition the conference will have as title "Challenges and trends in Ports and Shipping".

Industry experts and ETA delegates shall analyse the latest developments in the maritime supply chain, and how challenges as the digitalization of the sector or the adaptation to megaships requirements will impact the industry. The Conference will take place on the 6th of June as one of the main events of the ETA's Annual Meeting, which this year and for the first time will take place in Cyprus, at the Four Seasons Hotel in Limassol.

The three days' agenda (5-7 June) includes a series of activities for ETA delegates, guests and partners that will offer them a token of Cypriot hospitality and culture. Moreover, as customary, our members will have the best networking opportunities in a relaxed atmosphere.





The debate on the revision of the Consortia Block Exemption Regulation continues

While the European Commission is still analysing the pros and cons of a possible extension or revision of the Consortia Block Exemption Regulation (BER), organizations like the World Shipping Council (WSC) and the International Transport Forum (ITF) have published new reports to support their divergent positions.

The first report published RBB Economics on behalf of the WSC argues that a repeal of BER would result in a decrease in service quality. Moreover, the report affirms that "the concerns raised regarding how service levels on Europe trades have deteriorated in recent years are

based only by anecdotal evidence and isolated metrics that do not provide a comprehensive assessment". On the other hand, the ITF published a new report analysing the lack of transparency regarding the collection of relevant data for the application of the Regulation and its inefficiency as it has failed to generate the expected service improvements. Moreover, BER has helped liners to "reach a position of high concentration when assessed on key measures".



ETA Secretariat participates in the ISU Associate Members' Day

One more year, ETA Secretariat attended the International Salvage Union members conference. This time, the ISU's annual event focused on the industry's safety challenges and on how training requirements to address them.

During the conference, the Union divulged its 2018 Pollution Prevention Survey which analyses the salvage services provided by ISU's members. 2018 witnessed a light reduction in the number of services, falling from 252 to 224 services to vessels carrying 3,213,228 tonnes of potentially polluting cargo and fuel. There was a significant increase in the number of vessels carrying crude oil and refined oil products and a large increase in the number of containers involved in salvage cases, while bulk cargoes declined.



IMO updates its guidelines on fatigue

In the 100th session of its Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 100), IMO approved its revised guidelines on fatigue. The guidelines provide comprehensive information on the causes and consequences of fatigue, and the risks it poses to the safety and health of seafarers, operational safety, security and protection of the marine environment.

The document is divided in 5 modules focused on fatigue and its causes, fatigue and the company, awareness and training, fatigue and the seafarer, its impact on ship designing and the role of the administration and port state authorities to tackle the problem.

Next events

16-17 May

European Maritime Day

Lisbon

5-7 June

ETA 56th Annual Meeting

Limassol

