

Newsletter July 2019

Change of faces on ETA Board

ETA elected during its 56th Annual Meeting a new Board of Directors which embodies both seniority and expertise. ETA new Chairman Kimmo Lehto succeeds former Chairman Leendert Muller at the head of the Association. Mr. Lehto will lead the ETA for the next 2 years and shall have the assistance of Vicente Boluda Ceballos as ETA's new Deputy Chairman.

Captain Kimmo Lehto is a Master Mariner with over 37 years' experience in the shipping industry. He has been with the Finnish towage, salvage and icebreaking company Alfons Håkans over 11 years and is currently part of the management team and a salvage master. As a former Captain of cruise ships and with over 10 years' experience as a Maritime Pilot in Finland, he has extensive experience at both ends of the tow line. Moreover, Chairman Lehto has chaired the ETA Nautical and Technical Committee for the last 3 years and successfully carried out projects as the new ETA-EMPA Safe Harbour Towage Operations Guidelines.

Vicente Boluda Ceballos is the new ETA Deputy Chairman. Mr Boluda has a Degree in Business Administration and Management from the Complutense University of Madrid and has carried out different executive duties during the last 8 years at the management of Boluda Corporación Marítima, obtaining a large expertise in the maritime business. Currently, Vicente Boluda is also the Vice Chairman of the Spanish Tugowners Association.



European Commission Extends Dutch Tonnage Tax Breaks to 2028

The European Commission (EC) has approved an extension of three amendments to the Dutch tonnage tax regime until 2028. The Commission analyzed and supported the extension of this regime since it found that it is not in violation of EU Guidelines on State aid to maritime transport.

The three measures encompass a reduced tonnage tax rate for large vessels exceeding 50,000 net tons, a reduced tonnage tax base for ship management companies and the application of the tonnage tax schemes to cable-laying vessels, pipeline laying vessels, research vessels and crane vessels.



New EC President proposes to include shipping emissions in the ETS

The European Parliament elected Ursula von der Leyen as the new President of the European Commission. The German politician, who was Germany's Defence Minister was supported by a majority of 383 votes in favour, 327 against, and 22 abstentions. With this election, Ursula von der Leyen becomes the first female EC President since the birth of the EU Communities in 1952.

During the debate, Mrs. von der Leyen outlined her vision for a greener, smarter and fairer EU. Although she barely mentioned the maritime or shipping sectors, she announced she would "propose to extend the Emissions Trading System (ETS) to cover the maritime sector". The ETS is the EU greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme and obliges those companies included in the system to trade their allowances if they surpass the cap.

The EU agreed in October 2017 to give time to the shipping industry and IMO to realize its initial CO2 reduction objectives and to include shipping in the trading system from 2023, if IMO had not reached any ambitious agreement.

At the moment IMO has agreed on an initial emissions reduction strategy and aims to develop by 2023 a system to reduce shipping emissions in a 50% by 2050 compared to 2008.

Next events

7-9 October

Digital Transport Days
Helsinki

5-8 November

Europort
Rotterdam

7 November

ETA 2nd Autumn Conference
Rotterdam

