



# European Tugowners Association

## *ETA Virtual Autumn Conference 2020*

### ***"Towards a more resilient and greener future"***

#### ***The changing world of the Tug sector in a time of COVID and the future we can anticipate***

*19<sup>th</sup> November 10.00am -11.30am*

The conference will bring together ETA members to discuss the many ways COVID-19 has changed how we do things in the towage industry. The scope will be to look into the new financial, operative or competitiveness challenges the sector is currently facing and the essential steps it has to take to secure a greener, smarter, safer and more resilient future.

#### **Programme**

Opening by the ETA Chairman Capt Kimmo Lehto (2min)

Introduction by the moderator Mr Steve Dougal, Century Marine Services Managing Director (5min)

#### ***Part one: Company experiences and changes made during 2020, the year of the pandemic.***

Adjusting to the new normal, the Svitzer experience – Mr Kasper Nilaus, **Svitzer** Global CEO (8min)

The **Damen** experience in a global pandemic– Mr Mijndert Wiesenekker, Damen Shipyards Commercial Director (8min)

The experience of Boluda Corporación Marítima during the pandemic – Mr Vicente Boluda Ceballos, **Boluda Corporación Marítima** Executive Vicepresident (8min)

Adjusting to the changing world, the **Redwise** experience - Mr Willem-Jan Hamers, Redwise Managing Director (8min)

Discussion (10min)

Comfort break (5min)

#### ***Part two: Looking at the future***

The future is Green – Mr Jorgen Bjerre, Deputy head of Unit **DG Move European Commission** (7min)

How the ports are adjusting to the future needs – Ms Lamia Kerdjoudj, Secretary General **Feport** (7min)

The next few years in terms of tugs – Mr Ali Gurun, **Sanmar** Vicepresident (7min)

A shipowners perspective of how the future for shipping will look like – Ms Danae Bezantakou, **Navigator Shipping Consultants** CEO (4 min)

Discussion (10min)

Conclusion (5min)

## SPEAKERS' PROFILE

**Danae Bezantakou** is CEO of Navigator Shipping Consultants. She is also President of iforU-Greek Mentoring Network, which empowers women's entrepreneurship through mentoring. Moreover she is the founder of YES Forum, the leading platform of open dialogue in the Greek Shipping and Sea Tourism Industry among principals, executives and university students, recent graduates and young executives. Ms Bezantakou was also appointed as Young Global Leader from World Economic Forum for the years 2015-2020.

**Jorgen Bjerre** is Deputy Head of Unit for Ports and Inland Navigation at the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport. Mr Bjerre has a large experience at the European Commission after 16 years of service in several units. Before starting his career at the EU level Jorgen spent 6 years as a special adviser at the Danish Ministry of Finance.

**Vicente Boluda Ceballos** is the ETA Deputy Chairman and Executive Vicepresident of , Boluda Corporación Marítima, company in which he has carried out different executive and managerial duties during the last 8 years. Moreover, Mr Boluda is also the Vice Chairman of the Spanish Tugowners Association.

**Steve Dougal** After a successful seagoing career, Mr Dougal has three decades experience in shipbroking, specialising in tugs, barges and offshore vessels. Prior to setting up Century Marine Services Limited he worked for several broking houses. Previously he worked for HE Moss, involved in buying and selling general cargo ships, passenger ships and ferries as house broker for the Cunard Steamship Company.

**Ali Gurun** is Sanmar's Vice President. Mr. Gurun graduated from Istanbul Technical University as a Mechanical Engineer in 1993 and received a Master's degree in Marine Engineering at the same University in 1996. He has spent the last 27 years at Sanmar occupying several positions, most recently as its Projects Director. Mr Gurun is also Non-Executive Director at the Shipowners' Club.

**Willem-Jan Hamers** is Redwise's Managing Director since 2006. With 6 years' experience sailing the seas Mr Hamers also spent 12 years with Wijismuller at the ship delivery branch and leading the company's terminal towage and offshore operations in Singapore, Indonesia and Australia.

**Lamia Kerdjoudj** is the Secretary General of FEPORT, the Federation of European Private Port Companies and Terminals, and has over 18 years of professional experience in the maritime and logistics sector. Lamia spent over seven years as the Public Affairs Manager of the French Shipowners' Organization and in 2009 she was appointed Senior Expert and Advisor for several European projects financed by different General Directorates at the European Commission.

**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 for the last 12 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. Mr Lehto is since June 2019 ETA Chairman and it has chaired the Association' s Nautical Technical Committee for the last 4 years.

**Kasper Friis Nilaus** is since June this year Svitzer's global CEO. Mr Nilaus joined Svitzer as Business Development Manager in 2007 and has since held various global and regional positions within commercial and general management, latest as Managing Director of Svitzer Europe. He also holds a degree in Law from Copenhagen University and an MBA from Nottingham University Business School.

**Mijndert Wiesenekker** has been Damen Shipyards' Benelux Sales Director for the last 9 years. Mr Wiesenekker has dedicated his 25 years professional career to the maritime sector, within the Damen Shipyards personnel, working in the sales department and before that as a naval architect and marine engineer.