



European Tugowners Association

ETA Conference Data Driven Sustainability

10th of March, Belgian Royal Library, Brussels

Vicente Boluda Ceballos holds a degree in Business Administration and Management from the University College of Financial Studies (CUNEF) and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Since September 2021, he is the ETA Chairman. Moreover, he is the Executive Vicepresident of Boluda Corporación Marítima and the company's international towing division Boluda Towage, a company in which he has carried out different executive and managerial duties during the last 8 years.



In addition, Mr Boluda is also the Chairman of the Spanish Tugowners Association since July 2021.



Simon Tatham is an English solicitor who advises on towage, salvage and wreck removal. He delivers BIMCO's Masterclass on towage, salvage and wreck removal and writes a bi-monthly column in the periodical International Towage & Salvage.

He is a partner of Tatham & Co in London, the Law Society's "Small Firm of the Year 2021", and which through TugAdvise.com provides a dedicated legal service to the tug sector

Patrick Everts worked for many years internationally in container shipping, most recently as Lean Six Sigma Blackbelt. Improving and optimising the existing maritime operations has been one of his key interest areas. Patrick successfully applied this knowledge and experience at KOTUG International (Kotug), which he joined in 2014 as General Manager of its Maritime Excellence Center, with a focus on Training, Consultancy and also



(digital) innovations and solutions. Kotug is a leading maritime company offering its innovative towage and maritime-related services on a global scale.



Tim Christiaens is the Port of Antwerp Fleet Operations Manager, one of the positions within the Port's Nautical Operations extended leadership team. He obtained in 2007 a master in nautical sciences at the Antwerp Maritime Academy. After his graduation he gained experience as a crew member and captain of different boats of the Jan De Nul Group's fleet. Mr Christiaens joined the Port of Antwerp and ever since, as its Fleet Operations Manager, he has monitored the improvement of the operations' efficiency.

Dirk Degroote is the founder of Cognaship, a high-tech company helping ship operators achieving their sustainable ambitions in a competitive way. He believes the cleanest energy is the energy which is eliminated and enables this by combining a passion for high tech and data analytics with vessel behaviour expertise.



He gained experience as naval architect in over 15 years at Damen Shipyards. As Product Manager Tugs, he introduced the Next Generation Series, comprising vessel connectivity and IMO Tier III compliance.



Gareth Prowse is Head of Decarbonisation with responsibility for defining Svitzer's strategy to decarbonise their fleet and operations. A Marine biologist / Ecologist by training, he has spent his working career managing Environmental Issues within the marine coatings industry with a view to improving the sustainability profile of vessels and their operations. More recent roles have been in the sustainability area working with developing company level Sustainability Strategies particularly focusing on the commercialisation of Sustainability initiatives to drive value for Customers.

Mijndert Wiesenekker has been Damen Shipyards' Benelux Sales Director for the last 9 years and is Commercial Director of Damen's Workboats Division. 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.



Friederike Dahlke-Wallat holds a Master of Science in Shipbuilding from the University of Duisburg-Essen since 2013. She then worked for 4 years at the Institute for Ship Technology, Ocean Engineering and Transport Systems at the University of Duisburg-Essen. Since January 2017, she has been working as a research engineer at the DST. She is investigating a wide range of topics there, including possible

uses of alternative energy sources for inland vessels, safety aspects of new propulsion technologies and their integration on board. The current focus of her work is on the energy transition for European inland navigation towards a nearly emission-free mode of transport in 2050. She is a member of the VBW Expert Committee on Inland Waterway Transport and the Temporary Working Group on Technical Regulations for Fuel Cells (CESNI/PT/FC).

Annika Kroon has a degree in cybernetics in economy and international finance. Ms Kroon has working experience both in the public and private sector including banking and telecommunications. Since 2003 she has been working for the European institutions, firstly for the Council of Europe and as from 2008 for the European Commission. Ms Kroon joined in 2012 the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) where she specialised in several dossiers like rail market policies and multimodal sustainable transport. Since March 2022, Ms Kroon is DG MOVE's Maritime Transport & Logistics Head of Unit.

