



# European Tugowners Association

## **ETA Sustainability Conference: A Regulatory Environment in Constant Evolution** **12<sup>th</sup> November 2024, Grand Hotel Flora**

Objective: The conference will delve into the latest developments related to the Lloyd's Open Form and the UK standard conditions for towage which have been revised recently. We will discuss the changes and explore the impact these will have on the towage operations. The conference will be concluded with an update on the Monitor, Reporting and Verification Regulation, which has just been revised by the European policymakers. We will have specialists who have worked on the revision of these rules with us.

### **Programme:**

10.30 – 10.45 Registration

10.45 – 10.50 Conference opening by the ETA Chairman

10.50 – 10.55 Introduction by the moderator Danae Bezantakou (Navigator LTD)

10.55 – 11.45 Panel discussion on the Lloyds Open Form with:

James Herbert (International Salvage Union)

Ben Harris (Shipowners' Club)

Simon Tatham (Tug Advise)

11.45 – 12.35 Panel discussion on the UK's Standard Conditions for Towage

Nick Dorman (Targe Towing)

Alexander McCooke (Shipowners' Club)

Simon Tatham (Tug Advise)

12.35 – 12.40 Update on the EU MRV by the ETA Secretary General

12.45 – 12.55 Sum up by the moderator

12.55 Closing by the ETA Chairman

## Speakers' profile

**Alberto Dellepiane** started his career in 1992 in the maritime business as chartering manager's assistant at K.M.E., broker at Offshore Shipbrokers and then in Banchemo Costa. From 1996 till 2001 he worked as Procuring Manager at Terminal Rinfuse Genova managing an ambitious investment plan in new industrial plants that led the company to a peak 2 million tons dry bulk handled. In 2002 he joined his family company Rimorchiatori Riuniti contributing to the restructuring of the harbour towage business with particular focus on the labour organization. Currently, he is Managing Director for Italy at MedTug S.p.A., CEO of Rimorchiatori Riuniti Porto di Genova, Rimorchiatori Salerno and S.E.R.S., Director of Rimorchiatori Augusta, Rimorchiatori Mediterranei and Tripmare and Chairman of Assorimorchiatori.

**James Herbert** started his career as a British army officer before training as a BBC journalist. He joined the Shell group rising to head of group media relations where he handled numerous tanker incidents. After a period as a senior UK civil servant, Mr Herbert formed his own communications consultancy specialising in the shipping industry and also providing crisis communications services to shipowners. He has 25 years' experience of international marine casualty including deploying on site and working with major coastal state authorities including the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the US Coast Guard. He has served the ISU for more than 12 years as the Union's communication adviser and it is since 2022 its Secretary General.

**Ben Harris** began his career with Shipowners' Club after graduating from university and subsequently qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales. In 2010 he moved to Vancouver as a Director of the Club's Canadian Branch office where he was responsible for the Club's claims service across Canada and the west coast of the US. In 2013 Ben returned to London to reprise his current role with the company heading up the Claims team responsible for assisting our Membership across Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Indian sub-continent and the Americas. He is currently Chair of the International Group of P&I Clubs' Salvage Committee.

**Nick Dorman** is the co-founder of Targe Towing. He is responsible for strategic planning and the overall direction of the company. Mr Dorman is also a past chair of the British Tugowners Association. Additionally, he has held an active role in the Royal Navy reserves, commanding both at sea and ashore.

**Simon Tatham** is senior partner of Tatham & Co, a specialist shipping law firm based in the City of London. A particular focus of his practice relates to casualty work, otherwise known as Admiralty or "wet" law, typically handling incidents arising from salvage, collision, strandings, engine breakdowns and fires along with the related insurance and contractual issues that arise. He advises towage, salvage, wreck removal, heavy lift, barge and OSV operators, as well as their insurers and hirers, on contract selection, negotiation, and disputes.

**Alexander McCooke** is a practising solicitor and Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He joined the Club in 2010 and has worked in various positions, including in our European Claims Team and as LCC Manager. In his Offshore role, Alex advises on claims and contracts related to oil and gas, renewables and specialist subjects such as towage and salvage. He has sat on several industry drafting committees and chairs the IG's Education Committee, which runs the P&IQ programme.

**Danae Bezantakou** holds the positions of CEO of Navigator Shipping Consultants, which exclusively represents a significant number of globally renowned Towing Companies and Shipping Agencies. One of her biggest accomplishments is the organization of NAVIGATOR – THE SHIPPING DECISION MAKERS FORUM since 2001 aiming to enhance the open dialogue among the stakeholders of the Greek and International Maritime Clusters. She is the Concept Founder of Young Executives Shipping (YES) FORUM - the platform of open dialogue among principals, executives, school & university students, recent graduates and young executives in Shipping and Sea Tourism Sectors. Furthermore, she is the President of iforU-Greek Mentoring Network, which empowers small and medium women entrepreneurs through mentoring & networking and Head of the Education Committee of ICC Women Hellas.

