PRESIDENT’S INTRODUCTION

The International Harbour Masters’ Association is a professional association run by Harbour Masters for Harbour Masters. IHMA's aim is to unite those responsible for the safe, secure, efficient and environmentally sound conduct of marine operations in port waters into one professional body in order to further its objectives. Through our activities we work to promote and publicise the profession of the harbour master.

Within the association our members benefit from the support of like-minded professionals. We share information both informally and through our on-line forum and have an extensive network of highly experienced members who are always available to share their ideas and experience when we encounter problems at work. We have NGO consultative status at IMO and IHO and monitor proceedings where decisions may affect port operations, working closely with other maritime associations.

Our biennial Congress enables members to update their knowledge, share their experiences and build their professional networks at an event that is themed to reflect current issues relevant to Harbour Masters within the maritime world. The 2018 London Congress theme is “Ports – vital for safe, secure and efficient global trade”.

The 2018 Congress includes the presentation of a hand painted bone china plate made in the Netherlands and depicting the outline map of Europe at the time of the formation of the IHMA. It was originally presented to IHMA Past President (1994-1996) Captain Malcolm Ridge in 1996 at the Congress in Iceland when the European Harbour Masters’ Association became the IHMA following a period of two years of intense preparation. This reminds us of IHMA’s early ties with Europe. Its presentation to the current President will symbolise the continued close connection of our European members with IHMA and remind us of those who had the foresight and determination to establish an international association for harbour masters.

I have been a member of IHMA since 2000 and have been privileged to serve as its President since 2014. During this period we have worked on a number of new initiatives including the development of international occupational standards for harbour masters. This is a positive step towards establishing a stronger professional identity for harbour masters and contributing to the continuous professional development of our members.

The mutual support of IHMA membership remains as valuable as ever as each one of us responds to the rapid pace of change in port operations so I urge all of us to remain involved in IHMA in whatever way we can, and to continue supporting IHMA. I hope that you enjoy reading this summary of our activities and progress over the past two years.

Captain Kevin Richardson
President

IHMA ORGANISATION

IHMA is run on a day-to-day basis by the Executive Committee which is referred to as ExCo. This consists of seven Officers (President, five Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer) and is supported by the Secretary.

These seven positions are filled by election held at each Ordinary General Meeting (OGM). Once elected by the Full members of the Association, the Vice-Presidents then choose the President from amongst their number. Up to five members may be co-opted to ExCo for specific purposes, such as the next Congress Chair, Chair of the Papers’ Committee and EHMC Chair.

ExCo meets quarterly by electronic means. However, it always meets ‘face to face’ just before and at the end of each Congress; the latter meeting is held in combination with the IHMA Council. The Council consists of six Full members who are also elected at each OGM and it exercises immediate oversight of ExCo. It is accepted practice for the Council to be consulted about the proposed annual budget and any sensitive issue arising at ExCo meetings.

From time to time working groups are set up to tackle specific issues. Members are encouraged to participate in working groups where they have a particular interest or expertise.
MEMBERSHIP

The Association offers Full, Associate, Senior, Commercial and Honorary membership. Full members are voting members; applications are welcome from harbour masters and other senior port marine officers who meet the appropriate membership requirements.

Associate membership is open to anyone interested in the work of IHMA and prepared to work towards its aim and objectives. This category is suitable for port employees from a variety of disciplines who can contribute specialist knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the Association’s membership.

We also welcome applications from Commercial members who provide goods or services that assist Full members in the performance of their professional duties.

IHMA Senior members must previously have been Full members and Honorary members may be occasionally elected at the Ordinary General Meeting.

Further details are found on the website where a short on-line application form can be completed.

Consult the website www.harbourmaster.org for full details and application forms.

MEMBERS HONOURED

Captain Eric Atkinson OAM, IHMA Past President 2012-2014, was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division for service to the maritime transport industry with effect from 12 June 2017.

Captain Martin Phipps appointed MBE for services to UK Exports in the Queen’s New Year’s Honours List of 31 December 2017.

IMO

IHMA has been a recognised NGO with consultative status at the IMO since 2001 and can contribute to the business of the IMO within its field of competence. Reports of IMO Committees are made available to IHMA members and IMO papers are scrutinised and brought to the attention of ExCo as required.

Mr Kevin Gregory succeeded Mrs Anne Carnegie as IHMA’s representative at IMO in June 2017.

Over the past two years IHMA members have participated in IMO Correspondence Groups considering onboard lifting appliances and winches, bunker fuel quality, safe mooring operations and the ‘Single Window’.

In 2016 IHMA submitted a paper to the Facilitation Committee which became the base paper for the revision of Guidelines on Minimum Training and Education for Mooring Personnel and subsequently approved and issued as FAL.6/Circ.11/Rev.1 The Circular provides Governments, port authorities and the port industry with guidance to ensure an adequate level of competence for the provision of adequate and safe mooring services in ports.

In 2017 IHMA co-sponsored a paper supporting the development of a SOLAS amendment and Guidelines for Onboard Lifting Appliances and Winches. This work is important to IHMA as all too often accidents with ship lifting equipment take place in ports and a SOLAS amendment and associated guidelines are required for improvements in safety to be implemented.

In 2018 IHMA co-sponsored a paper brought forward by IALA for a new output concerning the revision of IMO Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines on Vessel Traffic Services which sets out VTS policy at the highest level. IHMA also co-sponsored an information paper presented by ICS concerning the activities of the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network. IHMA submitted an information paper on the development of harmonized definitions related to ship-port operations in support of the safe, efficient and sustainable facilitation of maritime traffic to the Facilitation Committee.
IHMA was recognised as a Non-Governmental International Organization (NGIO) within the IHO in 2014. IHMA member Captain Ben van Scherpenzeel is currently contributing to the IHO’s Nautical Information Provision Working Group.

IHMA PLANS AND PROJECTS

IHMA STRATEGIC PLAN

The current five year Strategic Plan 2013 - 2018 was adopted at the 2014 OGM and built on the ‘Passage Plan for the Future’, published 2012, which identified a number of actions to improve the professional standing of the Association and to encourage member participation in the Association’s activities.

An IHMA survey in 2016 identified the need for a co-ordinated marketing campaign to address the issue of member recruitment and expansion around the world, especially in areas where we have little or no representation and also an appetite for IHMA to deliver training services for Harbour Masters’ ongoing continuous professional development. These and other ideas have informed the development of the IHMA Strategic Plan (2019-2024) to be discussed at the London Congress.

NAUTICAL PORT INFORMATION

Past
The vice president of a major container line issued a request for harbour masters to make port information more easily available to its customers at IHMA’s 2006 Congress. It was recognized that this labour intensive activity often requires representatives from the marine industry and hydrographic offices to visit ports and terminals, or obtain information from masters’ reports after a port call. Despite these efforts information can go out of date very quickly and parties dealing with a single vessel may be using different information for loading, discharging, sailing and assistance, with the potential to affect efficiency and safety. As a result, the Nautical Port Information (NPI) project commenced with the development of NPI templates for use by harbour masters.

Present
The shipping industry is experiencing an e-Navigation revolution and IHMA is participating in this step-change for the industry. The need for easily accessible and reliable nautical port information has never been more important as all players in the industry aim to increase efficiency, reduce costs and achieve environmental benefits. There is no doubt that the market for e-Navigation solutions is developing rapidly. IHMA’s participation in this field has led to the recognition that the activities or events associated with a ship’s call are not well defined leading to inefficiencies and the potential for unsafe situations to arise. An industry taskforce comprising representatives of the major shipping lines co-ordinated by IHMA member Captain Ben van Scherpenzeel from the Port of Rotterdam has resulted in the development of definitions of ship call arrival and departure ‘events’. The emphasis is on improving communications between ships and ports using clear and authoritative definitions for the various terms used in daily operations. The definitions have been developed in consultation with the ‘Port Call Optimization Taskforce’ (Shell, Maersk Line, MSC, CMA-CGM, and the ports of Algeciras, Busan, Gothenburg, Houston, Rotterdam, Singapore and Ningbo Zhoushan). Only when no applicable definition could be found was a new one introduced and published via the glossary of the UKHO’s Mariners Handbook (NP100). The definitions have been collated in an intermediate document and will be incorporated in the next version of the Mariners Handbook (NP100) to be published in August 2018. The document can be downloaded from the public area of the IHMA website

http://www.harbourmaster.org/nautical-port-info.php

E-navigation is a rapidly developing sector and IHMA is proud to be working closely with many of the industry’s key players representing the interests of harbour masters leading to improved port safety, efficiency and sustainability, and meeting IMO obligations for berth to berth passage planning.
PORT WELFARE PROJECT
The International Port Welfare Partnership (iPWP) is an International Seafarers’ Welfare Assistance Network (ISWAN) project funded by the International Transport Workers’ Federation Seafarers’ Trust (ITFST) and managed by the Merchant Navy Welfare Board (MNWB). It aims to encourage and support the establishment of welfare boards worldwide, in accordance with ILO MLC, 2006.

IHMA participated in a recent iPWP pilot project to establish new Welfare Boards which provide the forum for maritime organisations to regularly meet and support seafarers’ port welfare services/facilities in order to improve seafarers’ lives. Port Operations Manager and IHMA Council member at the Gladstone Ports Corporation, Captain Gary Wilson, was instrumental in setting up the first of the new wave of welfare boards through the pilot project, and this has been followed by others. Following the success of the pilot programme, in which a number of new Welfare Boards were established in ports all over the world, the programme is being expanded and having represented IHMA on the pilot project, EHMC Secretary Ingrid Römers continues to represent IHMA as an Executive Committee member of the International Port Welfare Partnership Programme launched in September 2017.

SISTER ORGANISATIONS
IHMA’s Sister Organisations include; IALA, the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities, The Nautical Institute, the International Maritime Pilots’ Association, the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities and PIANC, the World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure. We value the close relationships we have with these organisations and we are pleased to note the collaborative developments that have taken place over the past two years.

IALA VTS COMMITTEE
IHMA is represented on IALA’s VTS Committee where IHMA member Mr Kevin Gregory chairs the largest of IALA’s VTS working groups on Personnel and Training. IHMA members receive reports from the VTS Committee with information and updates of relevance to the harbour master.

In 2016 IHMA introduced the concept of “navigational assistance as a VTS procedure” at the IALA VTS Committee in place of the current practice of a Navigational Assistance Service. Since then IHMA’s representatives at IALA (Kevin Gregory, Barry Goldman and Tom Southall) have continued to actively support further discussion of IMO Resolution A.857(20) at IALA.

PIANC
A number of IHMA members have volunteered to participate in PIANC Working Groups where the harbour master perspective is much appreciated by PIANC as it seeks to develop guidance for the waterborne transport infrastructure sector.

Think Climate Coalition
IHMA was one of the first partners to sign up to the PIANC led ‘Think Climate’ coalition officially launched at COP 21’s Transport Day in December 2015. IHMA has committed to participating in the coalition’s activities which it is anticipated will lead to increased awareness of how ports and port infrastructure can adapt to climate change. The Think Climate Coalition aims to provide a one-stop-shop for information and technical support to encourage the reduction in port infrastructure-related emissions, to improve resilience, and to adapt inland and maritime navigation infrastructure to the effects of a changing climate.

More information and the names of all the other partners and supporters can be found at

http://www.pianc.org/thinkclimate.php

In 2017 Capt Kevin Richardson co-chaired an international conference organised by the Coalition. A detailed report was produced and can be found at

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B7BzhazI9p3-ZTdZ1NzWURkSkk

This contains a short summary of each presentation with links to the presentation’s slides and video and will be of interest to port planners, port engineers, environmental advisers as well as the harbour master.
COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

IACS
The release of the EHMC video the Missing Link provoked discussion around safe mooring in general, but also specifically the mooring equipment on board. At IACS, the International Association of Classifications Societies, the EHMC raised concerns about the Equipment Number used for selecting the Minimum Breaking Load of mooring lines. This led to several years of technical work by IACS to review mooring requirements on board during which the EHMC was consulted. In 2017 IHMA members received a briefing note referring to updated recommendations from IACS on Anchoring, Mooring and Towing Equipment which includes revisions to the recommended number and strength of mooring lines. In June 2018 the new IACS Guidelines on mooring equipment on board will come into force.
In March 2018 IHMA brought its recently published position statement on Safe Access: Accommodation Ladders and Gangways to the attention of IACS.

MACN
In 2017 the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN) working with ICS initiated a cross-industry working group with the purpose of strengthening dialogue on corruption-related issues happening in ports across the maritime industry and seeking a stronger collaboration with IMO to tackle these issues. IHMA was invited to join the working group and has been able to bring the concerns of some of its members to the attention of the industry group and will in 2018 contribute towards the development of an anti-corruption best practice guide that will be applicable to seafarers and stakeholders in ports.

LLOYD’S MARITIME ACADEMY INTERNATIONAL HARBOUR MASTERS’ DIPLOMA
IHMA members are entitled to a generous discount on the cost of the International Diploma for Harbour Masters and may also apply for a bursary awarded by IHMA. Bursaries were awarded in 2017 to Captain Ahmed Taleb Ahmedou, Nouadhibou Port, Mauritania, and in 2018 to Captain Jan Eveleens, Picton, New Zealand.
Since 2013 the Diploma for Harbour Masters is academically assessed to provide 60 credits of prior learning accreditation towards a distance learning MBA. This is a unique programme for holders of the approved Diploma courses from Lloyd’s Maritime Academy and is delivered by part-time online distance education in partnership with Middlesex University.
IHMA REGIONAL COMMITTEE; EHMC

The European Harbour Masters’ Committee (EHMC) is a Regional Committee of IHMA. The EHMC has its own secretariat, Ingrid Römers, and its elected Chair, Captain Amaury de Maupeou of the Port of Marseille is co-opted to ExCo. The EHMC has its own dedicated area of the IHMA’s website providing information on matters of concern to European members.

EHMC follows European maritime policy and focuses on developments that are likely to affect harbour masters, and actively contributes to European Commission stakeholder consultations and follows the development of European legislation. EHMC co-operates with a number of organisations including the Maritime and Security Advisory Committee of ESPO (European Seaports’ Organisation).

EHMC Seminars

The European seminar is held in the year between the biennial congress. The EHMC seminar is usually a one-day event that provides the opportunity for European members to meet between congresses, discuss specific topics of common interest and learn from a variety of speakers. Thanks to the sponsorship of host ports, a very modest registration fee is charged for attendance.

EHMC is delighted to announce that the next EHMC seminar will be held in Gothenburg, Sweden on 27-28 June 2019.

The 2017 seminar was held in the port of Tanger Med on 11 May at the invitation of Cdt Khalid Samir, Port Commander, Port Tanger Med, and was followed by a technical visit on 12 May 2017. The Seminar’s theme was ‘Port Choice’.

Delegates received presentations from the representatives of port and terminal operations and were left in no doubt that these large organisations are looking in detail at their operations for every ounce of efficiency. Harbour masters were encouraged to engage with the shipping companies, to market their ports and their vision, and to sit down and discuss. Common themes that emerged included big data, the search for common understanding of definitions related to port operations, and the desire for a neutral electronic platform where all stakeholders in the global logistics supply chain can share information, including nautical port information. Presentations given at the EHMC Seminar are available on the members’ area of the IHMA website.

IHMA is delighted to have established a link with ACOPM, the Association du Corps Officiers des Ports du Maroc. The IHMA President and EHMC Chair addressed the ACOPM conference in April 2018.
Anne Carnegie
Secretary IHMA
UK

Commander David Phillips
IHMA Council Member
(to September 2017)
Port of London Authority, UK

Captain Carita Rönnqvist
IHMA Council Member
Port of Kokkola, Finland

Captain André Bruijn
IHMA Council Member
Groningen Seaports, The Netherlands

Captain Rik Verhaegen
IHMA Council Member
(from October 2017)
North Sea Port, Belgium

Captain Luke Grogan
IHMA Council Member
Picton, New Zealand

Captain Vernal Jones
IHMA Council Member
(to October 2017)
Transnet National Ports Authority, South Africa

Captain Sabelo Mdlalose
IHMA Council Member
(from December 2017)
Transnet National Ports Authority, South Africa
This is a selection of active IHMA members. You may find all members and their profiles on the website.
IHMA RESOURCES AND MEMBER COMMUNICATION

With such a widely dispersed membership, much of our communication has to be electronic. The IHMA website performs a major role in keeping our members in touch. Members receive regular email updates with news, reports from IMO, information of interest and the President’s monthly blog. A newsfeed on the website is frequently updated and provides information from ports and companies around the world. The website promotes the profession by providing information on the work of the harbour master in an attractive format which aims to explain the profession to a wider audience.

Membership application is quick and easy through the on-line application page. Members have access to a members’ only area where they can find and share information, find out about ExCo’s decisions, update their membership details and download a membership certificate. The jobs page is particularly popular with website visitors and harbour masters are encouraged to advertise vacancies on this page free of charge. Please contact the Secretary for further information.

NEW IHMA WEBSITE

Work on the development of a new external website began in late 2016 with a website audit. This established a number of priorities for any new website and work to commission its development commenced in 2017. The new IHMA website will be mobile enabled, secure and incorporate IHMA’s new logo, designed to show elements of the first IHMA logo (the anchor and the globe) and to be suitable for the digital environment. New IHMA branding guidelines are being developed to ensure a consistent and modern public image.

CPD website tool

The Association has undertaken work to develop international occupational standards (IOS) for harbour masters which will be incorporated within an IHMA member Continuous Professional Development (CPD) facility on the website. The IOS were developed from occupational standards for harbour masters developed by the organisation Port Skills and Safety, the UK’s professional ports health and safety membership organisation. IHMA has adapted these occupational standards for the international context and incorporated them in an on-line tool to enable the harbour master or port operations professional to assess their own level of competence.
Members’ Forum

The Forum on the members’ area of the IHMA website enables members to post questions and information of interest.

Recent posts have included discussions on: pilot training, distance between vessels alongside, assessing security risk in ports, environmentally friendly moorings, VTS building design, laser models during docking and others. The Secretary is able to provide support with the drafting of questions, and can post questions on a member’s behalf if this is preferred.

Here is a selection of 2017-2018 Forum posts which have answers on the website:

**How to assess security risk in ports?**
21-01-2018  Do you have examples of a methodology to assess security risk in ports, that will support compliance with the ISPS Code?

**Distance between vessels alongside**
18-01-2018  What is your opinion about the minimum distance between vessels? How do you decide how close to another vessel you can take the incoming vessel in your port?

**Restrictions on use of shipboard radar equipment in port**
28-11-2017  Do you have any restrictions in your port with regards to the use of ship board radar equipment whilst ships are sailing in the port area or are alongside?

**Do you have experience of Environmentally Friendly Moorings?**
25-08-2017  EFM$s are currently the subject of research and discussion. The IHMA Secretary would be most grateful to receive any information from members who have experience of Environmentally Friendly Moorings, sometimes known as eco-moorings, including any types or systems you have used in your port or harbour, holding capacity, maintenance, uptake of EFMs by recreational users, and any comments or experiences that you may have.

**Do you have rules on lowering lifeboats in your port?**
25-03-2017  IHMA sister organisation The Nautical Institute would like to know more about port policy / rules / byelaws on lowering lifeboats in ports. Do you have a policy / local rules on ships lowering their lifeboats in port, manoeuvring them away from the ship and back again?

**The Work of the Harbour Master, third edition**
The Nautical Institute and the International Harbour Masters’ Association collaborated on a third edition of The Work of the Harbour Master published in 2012. This is an essential book for those already in post as a harbour master or planning a career move. The Work of the Harbour Master was rigorously peer-reviewed to ensure that it provides readers with the practical advice they need to contribute to the development of their knowledge, understanding and skills.

Copies can be ordered at the Nautical Institute: [www.nautinst.org/en/Publications/](http://www.nautinst.org/en/Publications/)
EHMC Videos

The Chain
The EHMC has developed two videos that are excellent training resources. “The Chain; Awareness and best practices in the nautical chain” was reviewed by Port Strategy magazine. It said: “Today’s rapid turnaround of ships in ports has impacted on every one’s ability to swap experiences. In the past there were many people with a nautical background, now there are fewer and fewer, on board as well as ashore. Vessels’ crews are no longer always familiar with the port or terminal due to a huge turn-over of crew, diminishing degree of experience in general and an increased spot market, resulting in calling at many different ports. This upheaval has put a chink in the nautical chain – one that the EHMC is keen to straighten out. Its fix is to improve communication and awareness. Such awareness will lead to a better knowledge of everyone’s day-to-day work when receiving a vessel in a port, to a better mutual understanding and a better understanding of the common interests in optimizing the functioning of the maritime chain.”

The Missing Link
The EHMC responded to concerns about knowledge gaps in the mooring process by commissioning a second video “The Missing Link; improving the mooring processes”. The content was developed by a number of organisations and addresses improvements in mooring safety. Both videos have found their way to fleet managers, terminal operators, maritime institutes, ship owners, accident investigators, STCW training centres, P&I Clubs, port authorities and port companies.

Copies of these videos can be ordered by emailing romers.ehmc@harbourmaster.org

CONGRESS

The biennial IHMA Congress provides a unique forum in which formal Association meetings are combined with a conference offering a range of professional papers on subjects of topical importance to harbour masters and industry exhibition displaying equipment, services and technical developments from throughout the port and harbour sector. Recent congresses have been held in Vancouver, Bruges, Cork, Perth, St Petersburg, Malta, Bremen, Cape Town and Dubai.