



Chairman's Message



This first quarter of 2018 has continued on from the close of 2017, with the BSA Secretariat being very busy indeed; organising and participating in meetings across the whole board to promote the interest of the BSA Members. As usual you will find notes and minutes from the meetings on the BSA website. If you have not already done so, please visit the website where you as a Members will find a wealth of information.

On this year's agenda, and one of the most important developments in shipping history, is the finalisation of the IMO Strategy for the reduction of GHG emissions from shipping. During the week following Easter, we can expect to see the final negotiations at the IMO Intersessional Working Group. A final decision and establishment of a Strategy is to be expected during the MEPC72, 9 - 13 April, which you can expect a full report on in our next NewsFlash.

As the Chairman of the ICS MBM Working Group, it is not wholly untroubled I write the above. It is clear that the road ahead is not entirely straight. I cannot stress the importance of achieving a global strategy for the reduction of GHG emissions from shipping enough. As much as this is by far one of our industry's largest challenges to date, reducing GHG emissions from shipping is crucial.

The BSA Board held this year's first meeting at Stena's office in Copenhagen in mid-March. It was a very good and constructive meeting and was followed by a very positive meeting with the BMA. Capt Hutchinson, Acting Managing Director and CEO of the BMA, and Deputy Director Stephen Keenen both made a great commitment to participate in the meeting which enhanced the BMA-BSA relationship and augurs well for the future.

Following our own meetings, the BSA and BMA also had a very good and informative meeting with BIMCO at their office in Copenhagen. I would like to extend a big thank you to CEO Angus Frew and his team at BIMCO for their great hospitality and for some very interesting discussions.

John Adams
Chairman

2018 Q1 to date

This past quarter has seen a number of own meetings as well as meetings and events at which the BSA has been involved as well as profiled. Please visit the [BSA website](#) to read and download the reports from the meetings.

- ICS Offshore Panel, 17 January
- IMO SDC5, 22-26 January
- ICS Maritime Law Committee, 5 February
- ICS Shipping Policy Committee, 5 February
- ICS Board meeting, 6 February
- ICS Labour Affairs Committee, 7 February
- IMO PPR5, 5-9 February
- IMO NCSR5, 19-23 February
- BSA BoD meeting, 13-14 March
- BSA meeting with BIMCO, 14 March
- IMO SSE5, 12-16 March
- ICS Environment Sub-committee, 20 March
- ICS Marine Committee, 21-22 March

Bahamas "all Green": ICS 2018 Flag State Performance Table



It is with great pride the BSA notes that the Bahamas Flag has been marked as all green in the latest edition of the ICS Flag State Performance Table recently published by the ICS. This is very much down to the hard work from all of our Members and their crews. It is also a token of the very good relationship between the BSA, the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) and the Bahamas Government.

The ICS Flag State Performance Table provides a helpful indication of the performance of individual flag states worldwide, which analyses how the administrations included deliver against a number of criteria such as port state control records, ratification of international maritime Conventions and attendance at IMO meetings. This year, a new criteria on participation in the 'IMO Member State Audit Scheme' has been included.

Please download a copy of the ICS Flag State Performance Table [here](#).

Proactively pursuing the interests of our Members closely collaborating with Flag State and influencing industry.

BSA and BMA meets BIMCO

Following a very good meeting between the BSA BoD and BMA in the morning on 14 March, we headed together to BIMCO for a meeting during the afternoon.

Having received a fantastic greeting and terrific hospitality of our hosts at BIMCO we listened to some very interesting presentations from BIMCO representatives. We learned about the different functions of the organisation, from contracts and clauses to their training function, and the unrivalled wealth of information available to BIMCO's members.

The second part of the afternoon focused on maritime matters at hand, with varying degree of acuteness. Among the issues discussed were the ever-increasing need for Cyber risk management and the need for shipowners to resolutely engage the issue. Apart from the more practical side of things, it was also clear that BIMCO has also identified a number of commercial cyber security considerations.

We also discussed the administrative burden on onboard personnel based on a study by BIMCO. The study has identified some 150+ reporting requirements between 4 different ports, which clearly shows the urgent need for a simplified solution to these issues. Alongside this, was the issue of Autonomous ships and whether this may be a solution or merely a dream at this stage.

There was also some serious discussion on the issue of GHG emissions from shipping, both from the perspective of a need for a global strategy, but also from the perspective of compliance with the coming Sulphur Cap. Regarding the latter, there is a general worry for the availability of compliant fuels and it was obvious from the discussion that it is increasingly evident that there are forces driving an agenda for certain parts of the trade to sail with non-compliant fuels - a situation which would not establish a level playing field and would thus not be sustainable.

On the agenda was also the issue of Rightship and the often negative commercial effects the Qi rating system is having on those concerned. It was generally felt that a rating system can be helpful and that the idea of establishing such a system in essence is a good thing. However, all concerned agreed that there are major issues causing negative commercial effects for shipowners, and that the absolute major issues with the Qi system are the lack of transparency and the use of at times incorrect data. This is having very odd consequences for some shipowners, whereby for instance two identical sister ships have received completely different star ratings. Commonly the Rightship staff have not been able to explain how the rating have come to differ, opening up for even further questioning of the system.

All agreed that a relevant platform had been established for future collaboration and consultation on important industry issues.



ICS Marine Committee



This year's first Marine Committee was held on 21 - 22nd March. As has been reported on in the [report from the meeting](#), there were a handful of pressing issues for members to be aware of.

China has introduced new Environmental laws to combat the import of waste / recyclable paper and plastics from outside of China. This has had a negative effect on the possibility of discharging MARPOL waste and there are reports of ships not being able to discharge waste in China. Please report any oddities regarding the possibility to discharge MARPOL waste in China to the BSA.

China is preparing a DECA zone, as per 1 January 2019, where ships has to use 0.5 % fuel within Chinese territorial waters. It can be expected the requirement will be further strengthened to 0.1% as per 1 January 2020.

The revision of the US Vessel General Permit is delayed and as a result the period for general review and comments is expected to be very limited and take place during summer.

The Dutch SA (KVNR) briefed the meeting on a preliminary report regarding the status of shoreside bollards in ports and results indicating severe reductions in strength. The KVNR will keep the Committee informed of further developments.

ICS Environment sub-committee



This year's first Environment sub-committee was held on 20th March. As has been reported on in the [report from the meeting](#), there were a handful of pressing issues for members to be aware of.

Due to the increasing availability of BW treatment systems with a wide range of treatment capacity, it is clear that shipowners cannot in future state that there is no system available on the market appropriate for a particular ship. There are also indications the USCG is e.g. reconsidering the question of non-compliance due to dry-dock periods, and there are also examples emerging of extension requests being denied by the USCG.

Other issues discusses were:

- The expected lack of available compliant fuel after the Global Sulphur Cap comes into effect.
- The carriage and use of HFO in the Arctic.
- The European Ship Recycling Regulation and the lack of approved recycling yards which is causing increased problems for shipowners.

In the binoculars Issues approaching on the horizon



Monitoring developments in shipping, it is clear that there are in particular two issues gaining momentum: *Noise from Shipping* and *Biofouling*.

Discussions on the effects of noise on sea mammals and fish has been ongoing for the past 10 years, but there is now enough evidence both from laboratory studies and live studies that noise from shipping has a negative effect on the marine environment. However, there is no clear evidence for what is the best way forward for reducing these effects from shipping. A Canadian proposal to MEPC argues for an output, which will most likely be approved and this will have effects on shipping in future.

There is increasing concern from nations as well as regions of the effect of biofouling on local eco-systems. A detailed review of Cybutryne is expected and a comprehensive proposal is to be expected at PPR 6. There are also calls for a review of the Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species. The aim of ICS and other industry bodies is to achieve a global approach to dealing with negative effects of biofouling.

Members: Please update your contact details

The BSA Secretariat is continuously working on keeping contact details to our Members and their teams up to date and a major revision is to take place during spring.

Our aim with the revision is to achieve better channels of communication with messages and requests for information being sent to the person/-s with each Member who is most concerned with the various issues. We will set up send lists based on e.g. technical information, HR, finance, general, etc. in order to reach out better.

The BSA Secretariat currently has some 500 email addresses available to us in our records and although positive, it is quite clear that despite constant updating, many of these addresses are going to officers with our Members who since long have changed positions.

We urge Members to support the Secretariat in this work. A separate message on the issue will be sent to Members, requesting specific information on contact details in order set up topic-based send lists as well as more general send lists.

In the meantime, should you as a Members feel you are missing out on information, please update your contact details with Ms Kendanique Ferguson (email to the right).

2018 Calendar

The major events where the BSA Board and / or the Secretariat will be represented during this coming year are the following:

- *IMO Intersessional Working Group on GHG, 2 - 6 April*
- *IMO MEPC 72, 9 - 13 April*
- *ILO STC meeting, 23 - 27 April*
- *ICS AGM & BoD meeting, 17 - 18 May*
- *IMO MSC 99, 16 - 25 May*
- *BSA BoD meeting - Posidonia, Athens, 4 June*
- *BMA and BSA at Posidonia, 5-8 June*
- *IMO FAL 42, 4 - 8 June*
- *IMO TCC 68, 18 - 22 June*
- *IMO Council 120, 2 - 6 July*
- *IMO HTW 5, 16 - 20 July*
- *Annual USCG & EPA meetings, W. DC, late August*
- *IMO CCC 5, 10 - 14 September*
- *IMO III 5, 24 - 28 September*
- *BSA Annual General Meeting, London, 16 / 17 October*
- *IMO MEPC 73, 22 - 26 October*
- *IMO Council 121, 19 - 23 November*
- *IMO MSC 100, 3 - 7 December*

Bahamas Shipowners Association Secretariat



John Adams
Chairman
Managing Director
Teekay Shipping
(Glasgow)



Domenico Rognoni
Deputy Chairman
Vice President
Carnival Cruise Line



Anders Brodje
Manager
abrodje@bahamasshipownersassociation.com
+44 749 775 49 23



Leon Dorsett
Treasurer
LDorsett@bahamasmaritime.com
+44 20 7562 1307



Kendanique Ferguson
Secretary
kferguson@bahamasshipownersassociation.com
+44 20 756 213 15

