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WISTA CONFERENCE 2010

Athens - Greece

29 September 2010 - 1 October 2010  
Divani Apollon Palace & Spa, Vouliagmeni



# WISTA Hellas Newsletter No.3

## July 2010

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### *Welcome from Anna-Maria Monogioudi, President of WISTA Hellas*

Today I am more than happy to report to all WISTA members, supporters and friends that we are receiving a huge level of endorsement from the maritime community for our WISTA International 2010 Conference in Athens.

In the past week our list of sponsors has grown, and we are still in the midst of discussions with other organisations who have offered us their support. There is still room for more sponsorship support or a contribution to the *Pearls of Wisdom* section which we explain in more detail later in this Newsletter.

We extend a hearty welcome to the latest names on our sponsorship list. These include Navios Maritime, ClassNK, G. Bros Maritime and Seanergy. These names will be recognised instantly by our readers as playing a leading role in their various segments of the market.

We shall be profiling each business in more detail, in this and subsequent editions of the Newsletter. We have – we are pleased to say – been rushed off our feet by this huge influx of support, but, please keep us on the move!

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Believe it or not, there are now less than three months to go before the WISTA Conference in Athens! Speakers and sponsors are all of the highest calibre. The exciting list of speakers is headed by International Maritime Organization Secretary-General Adm Efthimios Mitropoulos, and other prominent personalities including Angeliki Frangou, Alexandros Tourkolias, George Gourdomichalis, Michael Bodouroglou and Karin Orsel, President of WISTA Netherlands will be among the star line-up. We are also delighted to advise that Professor Yoriko Ishida of Oshima National College of Maritime Technology will be coming all the way from Japan to speak at the Conference. We shall be bringing you further news of speakers in our next issues.

With a surge of interest in the Conference from around the world, **we have decided to extend our EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT deadline until July 20**. We urge all those planning or considering attending to check our website [www.wistaconference.org](http://www.wistaconference.org) and **REGISTER NOW**. Please do not leave it to the last minute, for summer holidays are beginning for many in the industry and this means it is wise to make this a priority before taking those much-deserved breaks.

There are three big incentives for signing up today. Early registration will save each delegate time and money. It will enable our organising committee to get a clearer view of the numbers and make the best possible arrangements.

And thirdly... as headlined in our email special bulletin over the weekend, **ALL conference registrations will automatically be entered into a prize draw for a four-day cruise**. This tempting prize is offered courtesy of *Louis Hellenic Cruises*, a loyal supporter of WISTA Hellas. All registration numbers will be collected and the draw will be made during the Networking Dinner on Thursday September 30. The lucky winner will be able to take a relaxing and culturally fascinating cruise for two people any time in 2011, subject to availability. *The 4-day cruise will leave from Piraeus on a Monday and visit Mykonos, Kusadasi (Turkey) for Ephesus, Patmos, Rhodes, Heraklion (Crete), and Santorini, returning to Piraeus on the Friday.*

Remember that one of the main attractions of our Conference is the venue, the fabulous Divani Apollon Palace & Spa, the luxury hotel and events centre on the Athenian Riviera. You have the opportunity to stay in comfort at this amazing complex which will be at the centre of activity around our 2010 Conference.

**We look forward to receiving your registration very soon!** Join our increasing list of delegates, all dynamic executives from shipping and associated sectors; meet and hear from our panels of top speakers; and enjoy an unrivalled networking opportunity.



## 1. Announcing the Pearls of Wisdom



Support for our WISTA International 2010 Conference has been arriving in many forms, and today we announce that we are creating a new opportunity for organisations large and small to show their backing by joining our *Pearls of Wisdom* category, the title reflecting the Pearl Anniversary of the WISTA Conference.

The pearl is the traditional emblem for a 30th anniversary, and we are collecting what we call a precious string of Pearls from members of the maritime industry and its service providers, with whom we have such close links. Do consider adding your business to our *Pearls of Wisdom*, whereby with a small contribution, your logo can be prominently displayed in all our promotional material and your enterprise will be recognised as among the most forward-looking in the industry.

We invite all businesses and organisations, including our own National WISTA Associations which so generously supported the WISTA-UK inspired *Coral Reef* of supporters last year, to discuss with us about adding their logo to this new prestige collection of maritime jewels.

For more information please email [athens2010@wistaconference.gr](mailto:athens2010@wistaconference.gr)



## 2. KEYNOTE SPEAKER: H.E. Mr Efthimios Mitropoulos, Secretary-General, IMO

Among his countless contributions to the maritime industry, one of the first of seven books to be written by Mr Efthimios Mitropoulos was a volume entitled *Safety of Navigation*.

This has been a tellingly appropriate theme for the leader who, since 2003, has been, the seventh Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization.

He personifies the intention that the IMO should be considered as the only forum where safety, security and pollution prevention and control standards affecting shipping engaged in international trade should be developed and adopted.



In kindly agreeing to become the *Keynote Speaker* for the 30th annual conference of WISTA, which will be held in Athens from September 29 to October 1, Mr Mitropoulos is very close to his roots: he was born in Piraeus, to a genuinely maritime family, being the son of a merchant navy chief engineer officer; his mother was the daughter of a shipmaster and owner of brigantines and schooners. In fact the family originates from Galaxidi, a Greek maritime centre during the tall ships era.

Known to his friends as Thimio, Mr Mitropoulos in 1957 entered the Aspropyrgos Merchant Marine Academy and the following year was appointed Captain of the Academy. He graduated with honours in 1959 as chief of his class. Between 1959 and 1962, he served as apprentice, second and chief deck officer on merchant ships on voyages around the world and, in 1962, entered the Hellenic Coast Guard Academy as chief of his class, graduating with honours.

He became a commissioned Coast Guard officer in Corfu, and later in Piraeus, retiring with the rank of Rear Admiral. He continued studies at every opportunity, including the gaining in 1965 of a scholarship to study shipping economics in Italy. In 1970 he was selected to study marine technology (fire protection and life-saving appliances) in the UK with Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

Between 1966 and 1977 he participated, initially as a member and later as head of the Greek Delegation, in the work of various sub-committees and the Maritime Safety Committee of IMO, in the work of Council and the Assembly as well as at the 1972 Collision Regulations and 1974 Safety of Life at Sea Conferences convened by IMO, where he was elected first Vice-Chairman of the Technical Committee of both. Between 1967 and 1972, he laid the foundations for what has now become Greece's Joint Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue Centre.

He joined IMO in 1979 as Implementation Officer in the Maritime Safety Division and in October 1985 was appointed Head of the Navigation Section. Further promotions followed, and in May 2000, he was appointed Assistant Secretary-General, retaining his duties as Director of the Maritime Safety Division. In November 2003, he was elected Secretary-General for the period 2004 to 2008, and in November 2006, the IMO Council renewed his mandate for another four years, to the end of 2011.

Among his achievements he has been leading the IMO initiative to establish a global Search and Rescue Plan through regional conferences in Lisbon, Cape Town, Seoul, Valencia and Fremantle and a conference in Florence specifically to consider such matters pertaining to Africa. In June 2004, he was appointed Chancellor of the World Maritime University (Malmo, Sweden) and Chairman of the Governing Board of the International Maritime Law Institute (Malta).

Of special note is his support for IMO's declaration of 2010 as the Year of the Seafarer, designed to highlight the contribution of the world's 1.5m seafarers - men and women from all over the globe - for the unique, and all too often over-looked, contribution they make to the wellbeing of everyone. An impressive list of the honours and medals awarded to Mr Mitropoulos can be seen on the website of the IMO: [www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org)



### 3. SPEAKER: Angeliki Frangou of Platinum Sponsor, Navios Maritime



We are delighted to announce that Navios Maritime Holdings is now a Platinum Sponsor of the WISTA 2010 Conference, and that Chief Executive Angeliki Frangou, who has long been admired in WISTA circles, and is an Honorary Member of WISTA Hellas, will be participating as a speaker in the session: *The Importance of Rules and Regulations in Achieving Sustainability – How do we cope?*

Angeliki Frangou has been Chairman and Chief Executive of New York-listed Navios Maritime Holdings since August 2005, the date of the acquisition of Navios Holdings by ISE. Prior to the acquisition, Ms Frangou was the Chairman, Chief Executive and President of ISE.

Ms Frangou was Chief Executive of Maritime Enterprises Management SA, a company located in Piraeus, that specialises in the management of dry cargo vessels of various types and sizes, from the time she founded the company in October 2001 until August 2005. From 1990 to October 2001, she was Chief Executive of Franser Shipping SA, Piraeus, and engaged in the management of dry cargo vessels. Earlier, she was an analyst on the trading floor of Republic National Bank of New York, from 1987 to 1989. Ms Frangou was also a member of the board of directors of Emporiki Bank of Greece, the second largest retail bank in Greece, from April 2004 to July 2005. She is currently the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Navios Maritime Partners, a New York Stock Exchange traded limited partnership under the symbol NMM, which is an affiliate of Navios Holdings. Ms Frangou is also the Chairman and Chief Executive of Navios Maritime Acquisition Corporation, a New York listed company, as of June 2008. Ms Frangou is the Chairman of IRF European Finance Investments, listed on the Specialist Fund Market of the London Stock Exchange. She was also chairman of the board of directors of Proton Bank, based in Athens, from June 2006 until September 2008. She is a member of the Mediterranean Committee of the China Classification Society and member of the Hellenic and Black Sea Committee of Bureau Veritas, and member of the Greek Committee of Nippon Kaiji Kyokai. Ms Frangou received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Fairleigh Dickinson University (summa cum laude) and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Columbia University. For more information about Navios: [www.navios.com](http://www.navios.com)

### 4. SPEAKER: Alexandros Tourkolias of the National Bank of Greece



We are pleased to announce that Alexandros Tourkolias of the National Bank of Greece is to speak in the Conference session: *Finance in the Days of Global Economic Turmoil*.

Alex Tourkolias was appointed General Manager of Corporate and Investment Banking at National Bank of Greece in 2004. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Bank Group, President of the Association of Banking and Financial Executives of Hellenic Shipping (*one of our Supporting Organisations*), Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ethniki Hellenic General Insurance, Chief Executive of Ethniki Leasing, member of the Committee of Piraeus Maritime Arbitration, and participates in Boards of Directors of affiliated banks and companies of the National Bank of Greece.

In 2002, he was appointed General Manager of the Shipping Division of the bank, which he joined in 1997 as Manager of that Division. From 1988 to 2002, he had worked as Assistant General Manager for Greece at Bank of Nova Scotia. During 1977-1988, he worked at Bank of America initially as a credit officer in the Piraeus branch, then as Vice President based in London responsible for London, Monte Carlo and Geneva shipping markets, and finally as Head of Credit Platform in Piraeus. Mr Tourkolias holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Sciences and Public Administration from Panteion University, a Bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Athens, a Postgraduate Diploma in Shipping Administration Management, Marine Insurance and Maritime Law, and a Master's degree in Shipping Economics from the University of Wales.



## 5. SPEAKER: George D. Gourdomichalis of Bronze Sponsor, G. Bros



G. Bros Maritime S.A.

We are very pleased to confirm that George D. Gourdomichalis has accepted our invitation to speak at the WISTA International 2010 Conference in Athens, which runs from September 29 to October 1. He will be speaking in the session: *Teaming up for Improving Safety at Sea*.



Mr Gourdomichalis is President and Managing Director of G. Bros Maritime SA, and as we reported in WISTA Hellas Newsletter No 1, that he recently was elected President of the Board of Directors of the Piraeus Marine Club, which we are proud to announce is one of our Supporting Organisations.

London-born Mr Gourdomichalis attended Athens College and graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst with a BA in international economics and a BA in political science. This was supplemented by his work for an MSc in Ocean Marine Transportation Management at the Maritime Academy of the State of New York. In 1989 he joined Republic National Bank of New York as a management trainee and worked on the trading floor. In 1992 he joined SS Maritime Inc. of New York, where he worked as a chartering and sale and purchase broker and was responsible for commercial management of Baltmed Shipping Co.

In 1996 he returned to Greece and with his brother Stathis co-founded Gourdomichalis Naftiki Eteria SA, commencing independent operations from the family's established business. In 2000 he co-founded Free Ships SA and in 2003 he co-founded Free Bulkers SA, both ship management firms. These activities were consolidated and in 2005 were successfully merged resulting in the public listing of FreeSeas Inc on the NASDAQ Exchange. Their shareholding was sold in January 2007 and George along with his brother Stathis manage and operate their ocean going shipping interests from their ship management firm G. Bros Maritime SA, located in Piraeus. George serves on the RINA Hellenic Committee, the Korean Register of Shipping Hellenic Committee, the Board of Directors of the American P&I Club and the Industry Advisory Board of the North American Merchant Ministries Association. For more information about G. Bros Maritime: [www.gbrosmaritime.com](http://www.gbrosmaritime.com)

## 6. SPEAKER: Michael Bodouroglou of Bronze Sponsor, Paragon Shipping



We are pleased to announce that Michael Bodouroglou, the founder and Chief Executive of Paragon Shipping, which is one of our Bronze sponsors for the WISTA International 2010 Conference in Athens, has agreed to join our list of distinguished speakers for the event. He will be speaking in the session: *The Social Profile of the Shipping Industry: Best Practices leading to Excellence*. Mr Bodouroglou, who has owned and operated tanker and dry bulk vessels since 1993, is the founder of Allseas Marine Inc, the technical and commercial managing company for the Paragon fleet. Prior to 1993, Mr Bodouroglou was a technical superintendent supervising tanker and dry bulk vessels for various shipping companies. He graduated with honours from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering, and the following year was awarded a Master of Science degree in Naval Architecture. Mr Bodouroglou has been involved in the shipping industry for more than 25 years and has served as Paragon Shipping's Chairman and Chief Executive since the company was founded in June 2006.

A Marshall Islands registered company, Paragon Shipping has executive offices in Voula, Athens, and listed on the Nasdaq exchange from August 2007, transferring just a short time ago to the New York Stock Exchange. In celebration of the move, Mr Bodouroglou and members of the senior management team rang the Opening Bell at the premier exchange on June 24, 2010. Commenting earlier on the transfer, to join more than 30 other shipping companies listed on the New York bourse, Mr Bodouroglou said: "The New York Stock Exchange is home to many international shipping companies and we believe that by joining them we will increase Paragon's visibility within the investment community." Mr Bodouroglou is a member of the Cayman Islands Shipowners' Advisory Council and of the Board of Academic Entrepreneurship of the Free University of Varna, Bulgaria. He is a member of the Hellas Committee of the classification society GL (Germanischer Lloyd) and RINA (Registro Italiano Navale). For more information about Paragon Shipping: [www.paragonship.com](http://www.paragonship.com)



## 7. SPEAKER: Karin Orsel, President of WISTA Netherlands



We are pleased to welcome Karin Orsel as moderator of the workshop entitled *Women on the Board* at the 2010 WISTA International Conference in Athens.

Karin, who is President of WISTA Netherlands, has been working in the shipping industry since the beginning of her career. As an 18-year old, she started working in the bookkeeping department of Sandfirden Shipping Company. At that time, the company was not doing too well economically, and soon the owner offered Karin the opportunity to participate in a re-start of the business.

After some thinking Karin decided to 'go for it' and in 1994, at the age of 23, she became a financial manager and minority shareholder at the Management Facilities Group BV (MFG).

Her present position, which she has held since 2001, is majority shareholder and Chief Executive of the international shipping company MFG. The Management Facilities Group partly owns and manages a fleet of 50 vessels comprising product oil/chemical tankers and general dry cargo vessels. MFG employs some 1,000 seafarers and 50 office staff.

In winning the prestigious Female Entrepreneur of the Year Award last year, she gained further recognition for her achievements as a female entrepreneur in the international shipping industry.

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## 8. SPEAKER: Professor Yoriko Ishida



Professor Yoriko Ishida has kindly agreed to speak at the Conference in the session *Seafarer – Shipping Industry: Sailing Together*.

An expert on intercultural and gender questions, Professor Ishida has taken a particular interest in these subjects from the standpoint of the maritime environment and of the world of literature. She is currently Professor at the Oshima National College of Maritime Technology, Japan. Born in Osaka, Professor Ishida majored in English and American Literature for her Bachelor of Arts at Tezukayama Gakuin University, prior to which she majored in the same fields at Osaka Women's University. A Doctorate of Philosophy followed, at Nara Women's University.

After lecturing part-time at several Japanese universities, Ms Ishida in 2003 became an associate professor in the General Education Division of Oshima National College of Maritime Technology, and since 2005 she has been teaching English, Inter-Cultural Studies, Gender Studies, and Maritime History.

She is a prolific author, most recently writing in English a treatise entitled *Modern and Postmodern Narratives of Race, Gender, and Identity: The Descendants of Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings*. This was published in New York in 2010 by Peter Lang Publishing. She has contributed to, and had sole authorship of, a number of books in Japanese on American and African American literature, folklore and culture.

Her recent articles in Japanese include *Acceptance and Significance of Feminisation of Seafarers: Considering Female Education in Maritime Colleges in Japan*, for the *Journal of Education in the Colleges of Technology*; and *Social Acceptance and Significance of Women Seafarers: For Developing Women Seafarers in the Shipping World*, in the *Journal of Japan Captains' Association*.

She wrote on the theme of *Politics of Women Pirates: Gender Norms in the Pirate Subculture of the Caribbean World in the Early Eighteenth Century*, for the *Maritime Transport Studies* published by Yamagata Maritime Institute.

She presented a paper in English entitled *Gender Study of Female Pirates in the West Indies* for the 10th Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, in January 2010; and on the subject of *Pirate Ships* for the 2009 annual meeting of the Japan Black Studies Association.

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## 9. SPEAKER: Marie Kelly of Norton Rose

Marie Kelly, a partner at leading international law firm Norton Rose, has graciously agreed to be a speaker in the Conference session entitled *Safeguarding the Environment: Innovations*.

Marie is a dispute resolution lawyer based in the Athens office of Norton Rose, and heads the dispute resolution practice.

A barrister in London before she came to Norton Rose, she has always had a broad base to her practice. Since coming to Greece she has specialised in shipping litigation and shipping contracts, including shipbuilding contracts.

However, Marie also has a great deal of experience in commercial litigation in the High Court and in international arbitration on non-shipping matters such as licensing and distribution agreements and multinational disputes arising out of share sale agreements. On the shipping side Marie has been involved in a wide range of disputes in arbitration and in the English High Court. Her experience includes charter party and MoA disputes, shipbuilding disputes and drafting dry-docking contracts, non-standard charters and conversion contracts. She recently successfully brought a pre-delivery claim based on design and other defects for a major Greek ship owner against a South Korean shipyard, as a result of which the shipyard had to do substantial works on the vessel concerned and a number of sister ships.

On the commercial litigation side Marie has recently been involved in a long running, high value case in the High Court (and international arbitration) arising out of a joint venture dispute in the metals market and a number of International Chamber of Commerce arbitrations arising out of share sale agreements.

In the 2009 directory of leading lawyers published by Chambers & Partners, Marie is described as "highly sought after for her litigation and arbitration expertise" and "highly regarded for negotiating agreements on behalf of her clients." Marie is a qualified mediator and has presented papers on topics including court supervision of arbitrators, the Forward Freight Agreement markets, bunker contracts, bunker quality disputes, refund guarantees, oil major approvals clauses, enforcement of security, negotiating shipbuilding contracts, and cancellation of shipbuilding contracts.



## 10. Silver Sponsor, ClassNK, to lead IACS

ClassNK has honoured WISTA by agreeing to become a Silver Sponsor for our 2010 Conference. This excellent news comes at a time when the classification society has achieved renewed distinction, with Mr Noboru Ueda, its Chairman and President, assuming the role of Chairman of the Council of the International Association of Classification Societies.

He was elected during a meeting of the IACS Council in Hamburg. A not-for-profit foundation, ClassNK was a founding member of IACS in 1968, and has three times held the chairmanship.

The society's history is impressive, and it is currently celebrating 110 years of business. Its origins are in the foundation in November 1899 of the Teikoku Kaiji Kyokai (the Imperial Marine Association) in Tokyo, which was established in order to promote the regulation and development of the shipping and shipbuilding industries in Japan. It was re-launched under its current name, Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (the Japan Marine Association), in 1946 and as the Japanese industries recovered after the war, the society flourished, classing more than 7,000 vessels totalling over 160m gt as it entered its anniversary year. This is 20% of the world merchant fleet under class.

Following the establishment of offices in London and New York in 1962, the society spread rapidly and now has exclusive survey offices in more than 70 locations, and representation in all major ports. As the new chair society of IACS, for the next year, ClassNK will chair the IACS General Policy Group, which is responsible for the deliberation, revision, and adoption of IACS technical standards. Mr Ueda outlined three main goals for his term. He said that IACS should provide a greater contribution to the maritime industry, as the demand grows for new safety and environmental regulations.



*ClassNK continued/...*

He explained: "Every one of our members is working to address the challenges raised by new regulations and conventions such as the ballast water management convention, the ship recycling convention, and the maritime labour convention. IACS as a whole, however, must take a broader view, and join with the maritime industry to find solutions to the challenges posed by the goal based standards and greenhouse gas reduction." It was imperative for IACS to give the IMO its full support.

IACS should reflect the global nature of the maritime industry, said Mr Ueda. "The maritime industry is a global industry, and IACS must balance the needs and interests of the entire spectrum of the industry. Although we all ultimately share the same goals, the immediate interests of shipowners and shipbuilders often differ, and the goals of the maritime industry in one region may at times be at odds with the goals of other regions. As Chairman, I will work to ensure that no preference is shown to any sector or region, and that our decisions strike a proper balance between the needs and opinions of the entire global maritime industry." He told Lloyd's List in an interview that he would work to ensure hitherto silent voices from Asian shipping were included in global input into the regulatory process.

On transparency, he said: "Since issuing the IACS Commitments to the European Council, we have made steady progress in our transition to a more open and transparent organisation. With the implementation of our new membership standards and the establishment of the new independent IACS Quality system, I am confident that this new framework will not only allow us to maintain our high standards of quality and technical excellence, but provide a strong foundation for our future growth and development. Nevertheless, this will be a transitional year for IACS, and I will ensure that this transition is a successful one."

For more information about ClassNK: [www.classnk.or.jp](http://www.classnk.or.jp)

## 11. Bronze Sponsor, GAC, opens major Brazil port agency

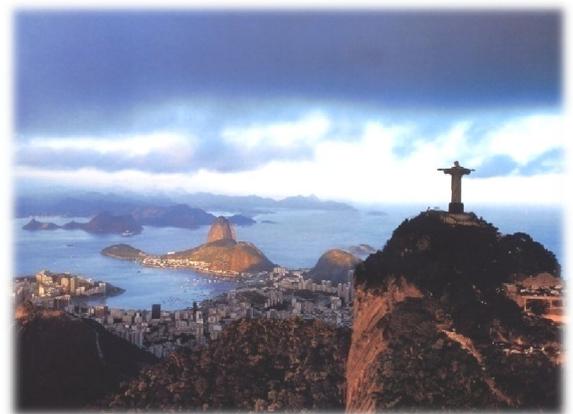
The WISTA 2010 International Conference is privileged to include among its list of high profile sponsors the GAC Group, the global provider of shipping logistics and marine services, and just a few days ago the group announced its latest port agency operation, which will be coordinated from Rio de Janeiro.

From Rio, the GAC Brazil team will liaise with a network of approved sub-agents to offer a wide range of port agency services, husbandry services, crew changes, medical assistance and provisions at all major Brazilian ports. Recent development in Brazil's economy and industrial sector has boosted demand for a first class ship agency and related services, said the company.

"We operate in a world where clients want more integrated service packages and the savings that comes out of it. GAC Brazil aims to provide differentiated shipping and logistics services to its principals and clients, which will guarantee the maximum efficiency in our services for shipping and logistics business" said Rodrigo De Marco, GAC Brazil Managing Director.

Brazil's mineral and agriculture exports are rapidly growing and the new GAC operation offers an attractive and reliable alternative to what is said to be the often-fragmented local agency market in the country. It is complemented by its well established range of logistics services that includes air, sea, road, ship spares and project cargo logistics, customs clearance and bonded warehousing.

"Establishing a ship agency under our own name in Brazil is a natural step for GAC, to serve both our existing customers in the country and to attract new business," said Robert Olsson, General Manager, Shipping Services, GAC Brazil. "Growth potential in Brazil is boundless. In the long term I expect GAC to become a strong player in this market. The GAC team has the network, knowledge and contacts to be the first choice for ship owners and charterers active in Brazil." For more information about GAC: [www.gacworld.com](http://www.gacworld.com)





## 12. Seenergy Maritime becomes Bronze Sponsor

We are proud to announce that Seenergy Maritime Holdings Corp has agreed to become a Bronze Sponsor of the WISTA 2010 Conference.

The company is the successor to Seenergy Maritime Corp, and is a Marshall Islands corporation with its executive offices in Athens. It is engaged in the transportation of dry bulk cargoes through the ownership and operation of dry bulk carriers.

Its initial fleet comprised two Panamax, two Supramax, one Handymax and one Handysize dry bulk carriers that Seenergy purchased in the third and fourth quarters of 2008 from companies associated with members of the Restis family. In August 2009, the company acquired a controlling interest in Bulk Energy Transport (Holdings) Ltd, which owns four Capesize and one Panamax dry bulk carriers. In May 2010, the Company acquired a controlling interest in Maritime Capital Shipping Ltd, which owns nine Handysize dry bulk carriers.

The company's current controlled fleet includes 20 dry bulk carriers (four Capesize, three Panamax, two Supramax and one Handymax and 10 Handysize vessels) with a total carrying capacity of close to 1.3m dwt and an average age of 12.7 years. The company's common stock and warrants trade on the Nasdaq Global Market respectively under the symbols SHIP and SHIP.W.

For more information about Seenergy: [www.seenergy.com](http://www.seenergy.com)



Seenergy CFO Christina Anagnostara with CEO Dale Ploughman in Times Square, New York

## 13. Shipping Strategy appointment for WISTA enthusiast Lena Göthberg

Lena Göthberg, who has been a stalwart member of WISTA Sweden for many years and is well known on the international shipping scene, has been appointed Secretary-General of SAI (Institute of Shipping Analysis), which is based in Gothenburg, effective from August 1.

Lena will be in Athens for the WISTA 2010 Conference, from September 29 to October 1, both to support this year's event, and to help promote the 2011 Conference, which will be in Stockholm. A past president of WISTA Sweden, Lena has now been asked to play a leading part in its public relations campaign.

She is a popular and respected personality in the shipping industry as a result of her career to date, which includes a significant role in marine insurance, and she is a member of the board of the Swedish Maritime Administration. At SAI, Lena succeeds Per Jessing, who is retiring at 65 after a long career in shipping, but will remain on the board. He became Secretary-General of SAI after the founder, Kaj Rehnström, passed away in 2003.

SAI offers business and market analysis to help clients in their commercial and political strategic decision-making. In 2009 it launched the SAI Academy to support improved competence in the shipping community. Services are produced in close co-operation with IHS Fairplay, formerly known as Lloyd's Register Fairplay.



## 14. Supporter, Louis Hellenic Cruises, offers a 4-day Cruise

Relax on a super cruise and leave all your worries behind! As mentioned at the beginning of this Newsletter, Louis Hellenic Cruises has offered a *four day cruise to the Greek Islands and Turkey*, as a special prize to a special someone registering as delegate to the WISTA Conference.

You could be that special someone! Every single registration will be included in a prize draw to take place during the Networking dinner on Thursday, September 30, when the winner will be chosen. He or she will be able to take a companion on a Louis Hellenic cruise, with visits to fascinating ports of call, time to unwind and sip favourite drinks and to gaze at seascapes and sunsets, and to pamper themselves with beauty and wellness treatments and exciting night life. We wish you luck, as this cruise has to be the perfect way to see this part of the Mediterranean in style. A big thank you to Louis Hellenic Cruises. [www.louisicruises.com](http://www.louisicruises.com)



## 15. Divani Apollon Palace & Spa – WISTA's luxury conference hotel

Welcome to the Divani Apollon Palace & Spa, the luxury, all-amenities hotel and events centre which will proudly host the WISTA International 2010 Conference, in the exclusive area of Vouliagmeni, on the Athenian Riviera.

Guests booking at the hotel will not only be on-site for our prestigious conference, they will be able to stroll through the marvellous setting of the complex at any time to enjoy the best of business, leisure and wellbeing facilities and be on the spot for our wonderful WISTA social events: networking in the best possible atmosphere.

This will particularly be the case when the Welcome Dinner on the first night takes place at the splendid *Mythos of the Sea* restaurant with its lovely view over Kavouri Bay. Delegates will thus be able to take a quick but relaxing break between the opening programme and discussions of the conference, and dinner by the sea, without tiring travel to an external venue or a panic freshening up! For many people this will be a great comfort after flying in to Greece the previous, or even the same day.

The Divani Apollon is located close enough to Piraeus and Athens for delegates to meet privately with their business associates and contacts: next door, so to say, to the shipping companies located in the southern part of Attica.



As to the surroundings, well, take a deep breath: the hotel is right next to the sea, in a spectacular beachfront location. Just 18 km from the centre of Athens, and 19km from Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport, the Divani Apollon Palace & Spa is a world in itself with deluxe accommodation and gourmet cuisine.

This was the first hotel serving Athens to become a member of The Leading Hotels of the World Ltd. The Leading Hotels of the World is a luxury hospitality organisation representing more than 450 of the world's finest hotels, resorts and spas. It describes itself as the largest international luxury hotel brand.





The Divani Apollon Palace & Spa boasts 286 luxurious rooms including 83 executive rooms, six suites and a presidential suite. All rooms feature furnished balconies with a panoramic view of the sea. It has more than 2,500 sq m of space for meetings, events and banqueting, and many features including a business centre.

There is, as its name suggests, a large spa and thalassotherapy (treatments involving seawater, seaweed and other marine products) centre, one of the most luxurious in Europe boasting the most sophisticated equipment. Other facilities include a private beach, water sports facilities, outdoor and indoor pools, fitness centre, sauna, outdoor tennis court and children's playground.



Dining and refreshment areas include the beachside restaurant Anemos with lavish buffets and a terrace overlooking the Saronic Gulf.

Anemos is a venue that makes a perfect setting for breakfast meetings, lunches and dinners. As to the restaurant Mythos of the Sea, the haute cuisine and seaside setting are unforgettable. Then there is the Atlantis lounge and veranda, a casual dining area with a la carte menus, coffee, afternoon teas, delicious pastries, cocktails and other drinks. Adjoining the Atlantis lounge is the Pelagos bar, where rich wooden floors and plush leather sofas create a cosy atmosphere. In the pool area, the Meltemi snack bar offers Greek specialities, snacks, ice creams, cocktails and soft drinks. The Beach Bar and Pool Bar offer cool drinks and light snacks.

The resort is an ideal base from which to explore Athens, and a shuttle bus operates from the hotel to Glyfada Shopping Centre and Syntagma Square.

To book your conference accommodation at this hotel: [www.wistaconference.org](http://www.wistaconference.org)

## *16. Experience Greek culture and wellbeing during the WISTA Conference*

We have a great programme of optional activities and tours lined up for delegates on Friday October 1, after the main business of the WISTA 2010 conference is over.

First option will be a delight for those who would like to get to know the Greek capital better. This is a city tour of Athens, including a visit to the Acropolis, pre-eminent monument of European Cultural Heritage.

The Acropolis, known as the Sacred Rock of Athens, is considered the most important site of the city and a symbol of Greek achievement recognised the world over.



The Acropolis – the Sacred Rock of Athens

A second option includes a look at the city, with time devoted to the fabulous new Acropolis Museum, celebrating the monumental achievements of the 5th century BC.

Although conceived in 1976, the main impetus for the new museum resulted from an international architectural competition initiated by the late Melina Mercouri, as Minister of Culture. The results of that competition were annulled following the discovery of a large urban settlement of archaic and early Christian times on the planned site, but a new tender in 2000 led to construction of a centre with a total area of 25,000 sq m, with exhibition space of over 14,000 sq m, 10 times more than that of the old museum on the Hill of the Acropolis.



The Karyatides inside the new Acropolis Museum



Inside the new Acropolis Museum

For those wishing to see another wonder of ancient Greece, we have the Cape Sounion Tour. This will enable people to visit the Temple of Poseidon and experience the magical view from the promontory.

All of us involved in the maritime industry should get to know this celebration of the God of the Sea. Built in 444BC, the temple looks out over the Aegean Sea, an ideal observation point to spot any naval threat to the former city state of Athens. Lord Byron was among those who carved his name in the ruins, but do not be tempted to follow this practice, which is now illegal.



Temple of Poseidon at Cape Sounion

On a more intimate scale, another excursion centres on Plaka and Anafiotika. This is one of the oldest districts, where you can explore a small village in a big city!

Plaka has intriguing small streets, with many hotels and centres of entertainment. Adjacent, Anafiotika, at the foot of the Acropolis, has attractive, small whitewashed houses more associated in the mind of tourists with the Greek islands, and in fact early inhabitants included immigrants from the Cycladic island of Anafi.

A close look at Piraeus, Greece's major port, will tempt many to our fifth option.

There is inevitably much fascinating history to this modern hub, and the entire region is a tourist attraction in itself. The official tourist literature says that Piraeus was once an islet, and hence one had to take a ferry to get there, and the name developed from the ancient Greek verb 'pereō', meaning to go across. The gap with the mainland silted up, and Piraeus became part of Attica. Because of its strategic significance, Piraeus was once a walled district. It was rebuilt with contemporary neoclassical buildings in the 19th century, and the re-opening of the Corinth Isthmus turned it into a key shipping and trade centre, and subsequently a base for the shipping families who afforded it worldwide importance.

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On a more relaxing front, guests at the Divani Apollon Palace & Spa will be able to take advantage of a specially created Spa package.

Attractions include a large indoor pool with seawater, saunas and Turkish Baths, exfoliation rooms and other rooms with modern marine care equipment. Massage, body care, beauty treatment, fitness and aerobics are all catered for.

*On the other hand, after a busy and rewarding day of meetings and sightseeing, what better than to relax and contemplate the sea from the hotel's private beach!*

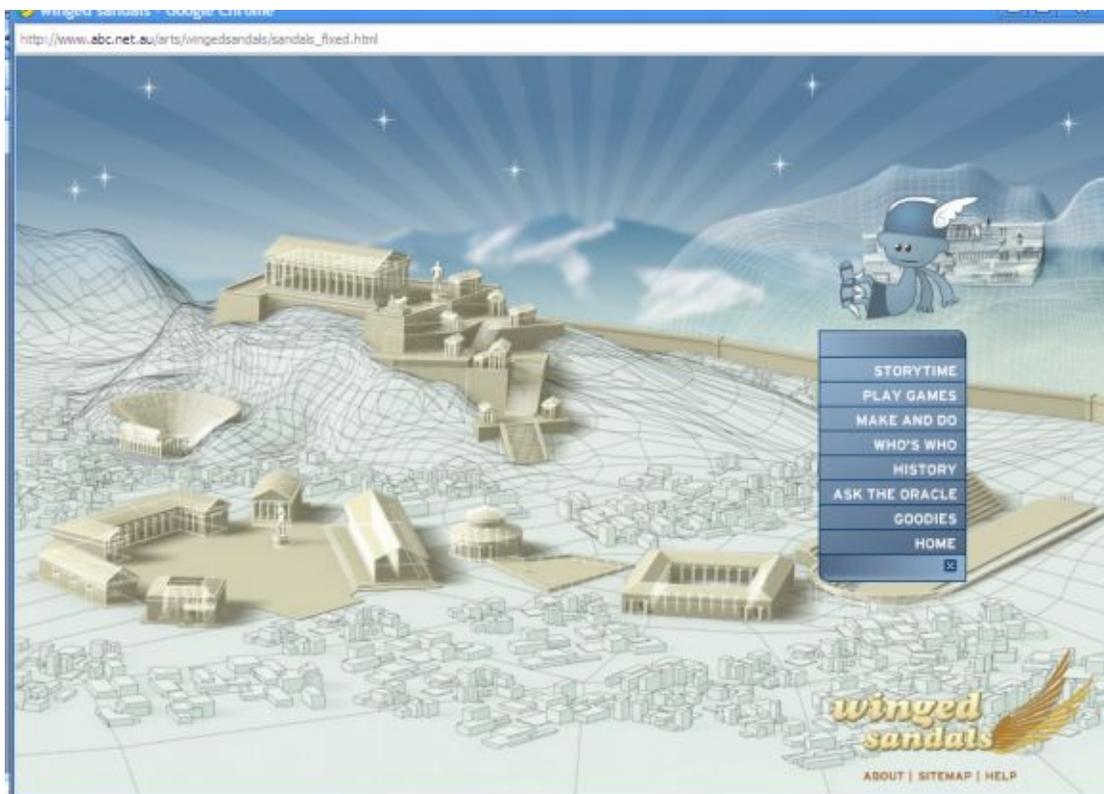


Don't forget to watch the WISTA Conference VIDEO on:  
[www.wistaconference.org/video.html](http://www.wistaconference.org/video.html)

## 17. On the lighter side ... "Winged Sandals" Greek Mythology Website

*A refreshing look at Greek mythology – view and enjoy this site: [www.wingedsandals.com](http://www.wingedsandals.com)*

For those of you who have children, or an avid desire to learn more about Greek mythology and its characters, we have found a delightful website which is full of information about the Gods, the Mortals, and the Monsters. There's a choice of html or flash versions and there are games, musical movies in the Storytime section and much more – marvellous for the children ... and the young at heart!



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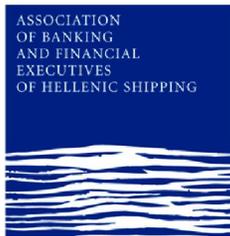
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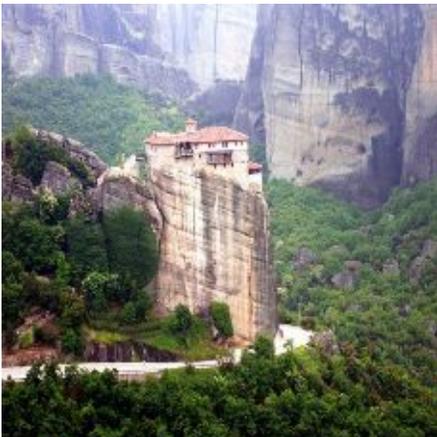
We hope you have enjoyed reading this third WISTA Hellas Newsletter.

Please feel free to circulate this to all your colleagues and contacts throughout the maritime industry.

Please send your news and comments to: [athens2010@wistaconference.org](mailto:athens2010@wistaconference.org)  
and James Brewer [james@james-brewer.com](mailto:james@james-brewer.com)

[www.wistaconference.org](http://www.wistaconference.org)

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When REGISTERING for the CONFERENCE, why not consider extending your stay in Greece for a few more days to visit some of the islands and many other fantastic historical sites on the mainland?



WISTA Hellas Newsletter Gallery  
"IMAGES OF GREECE"  
More images to follow in our next Newsletter



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