



AMPI Conference Galway

OCTOBER 3RD 2023

THE IMPORTANCE OF REGULATION AND BEST PRACTICE

We decided to theme our first conference around the topic of “The importance of regulation and best practices”. AMPI has been campaigning for several years to establish a minimum entry and standard for training and certification in Irish legislation for Marine Pilots. We hope that IMO A-960 will be the template used to form such new regulations. We also look to our European neighbours to see how Pilotage is organised and perhaps take inspiration from them.



We were lucky to secure such an excellent lineup of speakers for our event.

- The distinguished Senator Gerard Craughwell commenced the gathering and imparted invaluable perspectives on how AMPI can advance towards achieving our objectives within the intricate and nuanced Irish political landscape. He also stressed the importance of conveying our message clearly and regularly.
- Captain Brian Sheridan was next to take the podium, giving some insights on how some regulations have failed to deliver their intended purposes. He also detailed the Port of Galway's plans for developing new but necessary infrastructure.
- Captain John Conlon, who holds the position of DPA at Arklow Shipping, provided an overview of the company's ongoing new build projects and discussed accidents involving their vessels while under pilotage. He noted that the overall standards of Pilotage in the European area remain very high, but in some ports, standards seem to be dropping.
- EMPA Secretary General Aileen Van Raemdonck provided a comprehensive overview of EMPA's successful advocacy efforts for European Pilots. In addition, she shared valuable insights into the intricate organisation of pilotage across various EU nations, shedding light on how European Legislation impacts all pilots in the region. Her presentation was informative and enlightening, and it helped to highlight further the crucial role that EMPA plays in safeguarding the interests of Pilots throughout Europe.
- Donal Keaney Donal has over 25 years of experience in the shipping sector, 10 of which have been spent in a legal environment. He has a broad range of expertise, including casualty management, investigation, and advising clients on wet and dry shipping matters. He gave a very informative presentation on “what to expect when the unexpected happens”. His presentation looked into the legal aspects of what happens should there be a marine casualty.
- Arie Palmers is a skilled Dutch Pilot with exceptional knowledge of regulations and recommendations regarding Pilot ladders and all aspects of Pilot Transfer Arrangements. In a highly informative presentation, Arie discussed the prevalence



of improperly rigged Pilot Transfer Arrangements and the training Dutch Pilots receive should they fall into the water during a transfer.

- The presentations finished with Andy Nattrass. Andy is a former seafarer who works ashore for a company called Trelleborg. They are a large company that is involved in many aspects of the maritime industry; however, Andy gave a very informative presentation on the different types of Portable Pilot Units. Their potential errors, and how satellite signals may be spoofed or jammed.



Our conference was a success. We would like to thank our sponsors for their support. Without them, it would have been impossible for us to organise our first conference.

Exhibitors:

Safehaven Marine

Safehaven Marine, based in Youghal, East Cork, is a designer and builder of FRP Pilot boats, Patrol Boats, Crew Transfer Vessels and many other custom vessel types. They have been providing pilot boats to ports in Ireland and beyond since 1996. We would like to thank Frank and Ian for the magnificent footage displayed at our conference and also for the generous sponsorship of our evening event in Galway City.

MTU/NMCI Services

NMCI Services provides a range of training products and services for the maritime industry. These courses include STCW-required courses and specifically tailored courses such as BRM for pilots and azi-pod training. Further information can be found on their website <https://www.nmci.ie/commercial>. We would like to thank Clive Hotham and Jim O Byrne from NMCI for attending.

Port Revel/Aurelia

Based in the outskirts of Grenoble in the South of France, they offer a number of courses, such as 2.5 and 5-day ship handling courses using various ship models and tugboats. They are also leading the way by also providing a green ship handling course with two of their models equipped with sensors for measuring energy consumption. Port Revel can also tailor a course to the customer's specific needs. The lake itself is equipped with wind and current generators. Thank you to Francois from Port Revel for making the trip from France. <https://www.portrevel.com/11093-welcome-at-port-revel.htm>

Trelleborg

Trelleborg are a leading provider of PPU's and a huge variety of other products and services <https://www.trelleborg.com/en/about-us>. They offer a range of PPU's from the fully independent safe pilot pro-option to a new development known as SAFETUG, which provides the tug operators with live data information to streamline the manoeuvres. Trelleborg also provide comprehensive training on all its products. <https://www.trelleborg.com/en/marine-and-infrastructure/products-solutions-and-services/marine/navigation-and-piloting> Thanks to Andy Natrass for attending and providing an excellent presentation on the day.

Amura/Hiades

Amura Pilot is a technological solution that unifies all administrative and operational management in an intuitive and flexible interface that adapts to all the needs of maritime pilotage, from the planning and control of operations to billing and subsequent data analysis, through dashboards and reports. <https://amurapilot.com/en/home/> .

We would like to thank Julia and Coqui for attending our event.



Pictured left to right, Donal Keaney, Patrick Galvin, Pdraig Condon, Arie Palmers, Aileen Van Raemdonck, John Conlon, Brian Sheridan, Andy Natrass.