

WHAT IS ICS ? INTRODUCTION OF CHAMBER OF SHIPPING

WHAT IS ICS?

ICS represents the collective views of the international industry from different nations, sectors and trades.

ICS membership comprises national ship-owners' associations representing over half of the world's merchant fleet.

A major focus of ICS activity is the International Maritime Organization (IMO) the United Nations agency with responsibility for the safety of life at sea and the protection of the marine environment.

ICS is heavily involved in a wide variety of areas including any technical, legal and operational matters affecting merchant ships.

ICS is unique in that it represents the global interests of all the different trades in the industry: bulk carrier operators, tanker operators, passenger ship operators and container liner trades, including ship-owners and third party ship managers.

ICS has consultative status with a number of intergovernmental bodies which have an impact on shipping. Its close ties with IMO stretch back to this body's inception in 1958. Other partners include the World Customs Organization, the International

Telecommunications Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Meteorological Organization. ICS also enjoys close relationships with industry organizations representing different maritime interests such as shipping, ports, pilotage, the oil industry, insurance and classification societies responsible for the surveying of ships.

ICS is committed to the principle of maritime regulation being formulated at an international level. Shipping is by nature international: the regulations that apply to a ship when it sails from Buenos Aires must apply equally when it arrives in Brisbane. The alternative to an international system of shipping legislation would be a chaotic web of local rules and regulations that would result in commercial distortions and mass economic deficiencies. The objective of ICS is the maintenance of a sound, well considered global regulatory environment in which well-run ships can operate safely and efficiently.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

ICS is the principal international trade association for the shipping industry, representing all sectors and trades and comprising national ship-owner associations, through which structure it can uniquely and legitimately claim to speak for a significant majority of international shipping.

The aim of ICS is to act as an advocate for the industry on issues of maritime affairs, shipping policy, legal and technical matters, including ship construction, operation, safety and management, and to develop best practice in the industry.

To that end, ICS will:

- **ENCOURAGE** high standards of operation and the provision of high quality and efficient shipping services.
- **STRIVE** for a regulatory environment which embraces safe shipping operations, protection of the environment, maintenance of open markets and fair competition as well as adherence to internationally adopted standards and procedures.
- **SUPPORT** such regulation of shipping at an international level and oppose unilateral and regional action by governments.
- **PRESS** for recognition of the commercial requirements of shipping and of the need for operators who meet the required standards to secure a proper commercial return.
- **REMAIN COMMITTED** to the promotion and updating of industry guidance on best operating practices.
- **COOPERATE** with other organizations, both intergovernmental and non-governmental, in the pursuit of these objectives.
- **PROMOTE** the industry's profile as a safe, clean, comprehensively regulated and responsible facilitator of global trade.
- **ANTICIPATE** whenever possible and respond whenever appropriate to policies and actions which conflict with the above.

Represents the views of the entire shipping industry at the various forms which develop international maritime conventions and recommendations, especially the International Maritime Organization (IMO). ICS is particularly influential because of the support it receives from its member national ship-owners associations' which represent the views agreed within ICS to their national governments, which in turn comprise the membership of bodies such as IMO.

MEMBERS OF ICS & ISF

[*ICS - ICS MEMBERS ONLY *ISF - ISF MEMBERS ONLY]

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