

The Shipping Conference 2012

兩岸三地航運物流會議

The Shipping Conference 2012 [2012年兩岸三地航運物流會議] was held at Evergreen Laurel Hotel, Taipei on 16th June 2012, being hosted by the China Maritime Institute 中華航運學會 chaired by Prof. Chang 張志清教授 and jointly organized by the Shenzhen Maritime Shipping Association 深圳海運協會 and the Institute of Seatransport 香港海運學會

For brief background information the first joint conference was held at Shenzhen on the 16th/17th November 2002, being hosted by the Shenzhen Maritime Shipping under the chairmanship of Capt. Du Baoming 杜寶明船長. The delegates from Taiwan and Hong Kong were led by Prof. Lin 林光教授 Chairman of the China Maritime Institute and Mr. Raymond Wong 王德超海損理算師 Chairman of the Institute of Seatransport respectively. The second conference was held in Hong Kong in 2003 and the third one in Taipei in 2004....

Whilst initially the conference this year was intended to be a comparatively low profile activity, it did receive good support of local shipping community, with a total of some 100 attendees including few heavy weight guests. Mr. Oliver FL Yu 游芳來董事長, the Chairman of Chunghwa Post Co., Ltd., a guest of honour gave an opening address, followed by Mr. Ma Yong Zhi 馬勇智副主任, Vice Director General of Transport Commission of Shanzhen Municipality, who also did the closing speech.

The presentations by the Taiwan representatives including the President of Taiwan International Ports Co., Ltd., the Director-General of Maritime & Port Bureau and the Chairman of the China Maritime Institute, introducing and updating the development and management of the Taiwan ports and the Rotterdam Rules are informative.

Mr. Chen Xinchuan 陳新川會長 Chairman of Shenzhen Maritime Shipping Association highlighted on the carriage of iron ore whilst the vice chairman, Ms. Zhang Qi 張琦副會長 talked about the prospect of the modern cooperation between Shenzhen, Hong Kong and Taiwan on shipping.

Representing your Institute were the Chairman, Mr. Raymond Wong and fellow member, Mr. Wong Sai Fat, General Manager, Shipping Registry & Seafarers Branch of Marine Department, HKSAR. Being the last speakers of the day, we were lucky to find that we had adequate time to present our talks without any time pressure.

The talk by the Chairman covers the introduction of the profession of average adjusters and the development of average adjusting in Greater China. Apparently

most attendees were interested to learn that whilst the profession originated in the UK in 1813 it was first introduced to Shanghai in the mid 1920's. During the second world-war, the British adjuster closed his firm in Shanghai and moved to set up in Hong Kong in 1945, followed by other adjusting firms from the UK in 1960's. The Department for Average Adjustment under the Legal Affairs Department of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade was set up in Beijing in 1969. In Taiwan the first professional average adjusting firm was opened in Taipei in 1974. A genuine private professional average adjusting firm returned to Shanghai in 2001. Currently, there are no more than 30 professional average adjusting practitioners within the Greater China whilst there are 3 fully qualified Fellows and 5 Associates of the UK Association of Average Adjusters, all being based in Hong Kong.

Mr. Wong Sai Fat gave an excellent presentation on the development of the maritime industry in Hong Kong, which, from instant response and subsequent feedback, was much welcome by the attendees with remarks of being informative, educational and humorous. The power-point presentations of the HK delegates will be posted on the website.

We would like to report that the seminar was a constructively successful one.

The Institute would record thanks for the warm hospitality of the China Maritime Institute, 林光博士 and 姚忠义先生.