

The first International Harbour Masters' Association (IHMA) Port Operations Awards

IHMA is delighted that its initiative to introduce awards highlighting the contribution of people and organisations to port operations has met with such a positive response. The first ever IHMA awards were announced at the Association's biennial Congress Dinner held at the Headquarters of the International Maritime Organization on 27 June 2018.

The 2018 Awards

The Safe, Efficient and Secure Port Award to Pilbara Ports Authority for Under-Keel Clearance Management at Port Hedland in cooperation with IHMA Commercial Member OMC International.

The Outstanding Individual Achievement in the Profession of Harbour Master Award to Captain Andreas Mai, Harbour Master, Port of Bremerhaven and Bremen.

The Port Operations Photograph of the Year Award to the Harbour Master's Office of the Port of Rotterdam for its photo of a hybrid patrol vessel.

Citations for each award can be found below.

The Safe, Efficient and Secure Port Award

This award is made to an individual, port or company for its contribution to port efficiency taking account of safety and security. The scope and relevance of the port or project, its sustainability, applicability, innovation and measurable impact on day to day operations were considered by the judges.

The winner of this award has implemented innovative port optimisation and risk management technologies that mitigate the risk of grounding within the port channel and the potential to block access to the port. Given the value of trade through the port, grounding would have far reaching consequences not only for this port's operations and its customers, but also the State and national economy. Therefore, the risks must be carefully managed having consideration for all the operational factors, including the channel profile, environmental conditions, geographic constraints, and vessel characteristics.

The maintenance of a safe under-keel clearance (UKC) is a prime concern of harbour masters and this port's close cooperation with an industry partner has provided a consistent and scientific approach to under-keel clearance dynamically and in real-time. Furthermore, this company's product has increased the available sailing drafts and windows over the static UKC

requirements, enabling more time for vessels to sail and increasing the separation distance between vessels in convoy. In addition the product has applications in other aspects of port operations including dredging, and the requirements and limitations of port assets and services such as loader rates, mooring technologies, pilots and tugs.

The IHMA Safe, Efficient and Secure Port Award is made to Pilbara Ports Authority for UKC management at Port Hedland in cooperation with IHMA Commercial Member OMC International.

The Outstanding Individual Achievement in the Profession of Harbour Master

This award recognises Outstanding Individual Achievement in the Profession of Harbour Master. The judges were looking for expertise and excellent leadership, how the person has made a contribution to the development of people within their sphere of influence and how they have made a contribution to the development and promotion of the role of the Harbour Master locally, nationally or internationally.

The winner has served as a harbour master of distinction for more than twenty years in an outstanding career dedicated to furthering the role of the harbour master in port management. He is recognised for his commitment to the education of his staff, cadets, and students and has lectured at maritime universities and international conferences and seminars as well as publishing his insights and concerns. He is a recognised international expert for maritime emergencies, and as well as managing incidents, has used his experience to identify unclear rules and regulations and initiated further discourse for the handling of maritime accidents. He has represented his country's ports at the European Sea Ports Organisation, served as Chairman of the IHMA's European Harbour Masters' Committee, and in his support of the IMO's Day of the Seafarer somehow manages to find the time to serve the international seamen and guests at his local seamen's club barbecue wearing his official uniform! Captain Andreas Mai, Harbour Master, Port of Bremerhaven and Bremen is the first recipient of the IHMA 'Outstanding Individual Achievement in the Profession of Harbour Master'.

The Port Operations Photograph of the Year

The judges were faced with a difficult task identifying the recipient of this award. The criteria for the award were that the photo should be contemporary, original and convey a strong message about port operations and the vital role they play. The standard of submissions was very high and covered a range of port operations. Many of the submissions illustrated the intrinsic beauty and stunning scenery of ports at all times of the day and night, the back-drop of our

lives as port professionals. The winning photo tells a story of a port dedicated to innovation, sustainability and safe port operations. A ‘state of the art’ patrol vessel with hybrid propulsion reducing diesel engine operating hours, designed to produce less wake, with an aluminium hull that reduces fuel consumption, and which takes the knowledge and technology of the harbour master afloat. The 2018 IHMA Port Operations Photograph of the Year is awarded to the Harbour Master’s Office of the Port of Rotterdam.

About IHMA

With more than 230 members in 50 countries, the IHMA, founded in 1996, brings together marine professionals responsible for the safe, secure, efficient and environmentally sound conduct of marine operations in port waters into one professional body.

Picture captions:

Captain Kevin Richardson and Captain Yoss Leclerc with Dr Terry O’Brien AM (centre) representing OMC International and its role in the application of UKC management at Port Hedland, Pilbara Ports Authority, winner of The Safe, Efficient and Secure Port Award

*Captain Kevin Richardson and Captain Carita Rönnqvist with Captain Andreas Mai (centre), Harbour Master, Port of Bremerhaven and Bremen recognised for **Outstanding Individual** Achievement in the Profession of Harbour Master*

Captain Kevin Richardson and Captain Naresh Sewnath with Captain Rob Gutteling (centre), representing Port of Rotterdam Harbour Master’s Office (centre) Port Operations Photograph of the Year (shown below)

On Thursday 18 January 2018, the Rotterdam Harbour Master has commissioned a new hybrid patrol vessel, the RPA 8. It is the first time that the harbour master, in function since 2010, has taken a new vessel into service. The photo shows the intentionally big bridge; one navigation position has been created in the front and is separated from the specific harbour master tasks that are performed on consoles in the back. This type of resource management intends to improve the safety of working since there is less distraction in navigating.

Harbour master René de Vries said: 'The commissioning fits in with the policy to stimulate sustainable navigation and to act as an exemplary port authority. The ship is 25 metres long and can sail on both diesel and diesel-electric.

'It is significantly more economical than the other ships of the Port Authority. The hybrid propulsion system allows efficient patrolling at low speeds and reduces the number of operating hours on diesel engines. A special underwater wing profile ensures less wake; better for quay walls, for other vessels and also for fuel consumption. The hull is made of aluminium, three times as light as steel, and that is also why the vessel uses less fuel.

'The RPA 8 saves as much energy as 65 households consume in one year. As a result, the ship also emits less CO₂; a quantity for which 8,000 trees should be planted every year.'