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Maritime industry poised to make headway at Sea Asia 2013

Monday 8 April 2013 – The fourth edition of Sea Asia, the iconic conference and exhibition for the maritime industry, kicks off in Singapore tomorrow (Tuesday April 9).

Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam will be the Guest of Honour to officially open Sea Asia 2013 and tour the exhibition tomorrow morning.

Overseas maritime professionals across the globe are flying into Singapore for the three day mega-maritime event at the Marina Bay Sands Conference and Exhibition Centre. The organisers are expecting about 14,000 participants to take part in this year's show.

Sea Asia, which has rapidly grown into one of the global shipping industry's cornerstone events, is jointly organised by Singapore Maritime Foundation ("SMF") and Seatrade.

Launched in 2007, the 2013 show will occupy more than 16950 square metres, doubling the space booked for the first Sea Asia show in 2007 and a 16% increase from the last show in 2011. The exhibition space has been sold out with more than 385 companies from 36 countries confirmed to exhibit with a record number of 10 national pavilions.

"Sea Asia 2013 showcases the best practices in the maritime trade and acts as a platform to share these practices with the rest of the industry. It has proven to be a valuable investment of time and resources for all attending companies in the past and will no doubt be the same for this year's show. As one of the anchor events of the Singapore Maritime Week, Sea Asia

cements Singapore's standing as an international maritime centre in this region." said Mr Michael Chia, Chairman of SMF.

Headlining the opening session of the conference, themed "The Asian Voice in World Shipping: Liner", will be Mr Tan Chong Meng, Group CEO of PSA International Pte Ltd.

He will be joined by a panel of prominent industry leaders in the container shipping sector who will discuss outlook and challenges for container and cargo operations in this new era of economic uncertainty.

The show will continue with another conference highlight tomorrow afternoon on the bulk trades sector in a session chaired by Mr Matt Frei, the renowned journalist and broadcaster from Independent Television News (ITN) in London. The panel will explore pertinent issues and prospects of the major dry and liquid bulk trades and the impact on growth in Asia.

A significant new feature for the event on day one is the Sea Asia Global Forum, where key international executives from around the world will present their individual viewpoints. The opening address will be given by Dr Jubara Al Sureisry, Minister of Transport, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and he will be joined by Masamichi Morooka, Chairman of International Chamber of Shipping and President and Chief Executive Officer, NYK-Hinode Line Ltd, Jorge L. Quijano, Administrator, Autoridad del Canal de Panamá, and Mohammed Al Muallem, Senior Vice President and Managing Director - UAE Region, DP World.

With these heavyweight sessions scheduled for the first day of the show, Sea Asia 2013 balances day two and day three of the conference with other aspects of the maritime industry such as Ship Finance, Green Technology, LNG and LPG and the newly created Offshore Marine Day.

Chris Hayman, chairman of co-organiser, Seatrade, added: "The Offshore Marine Day is one of several new and interesting additions to the programme and deservedly so, as the sector outperforms others in the industry. Led by the movers and shakers of the offshore sector, the high powered line-up of speakers will address the pivotal commercial and financing issues in this market."

"Sea Asia 2013 promises to be a trusted event for industry leaders to network, exchange views on the industry and more importantly an acknowledged platform to strike deals. As circumstances and events become increasingly dynamic, the maritime sector must continue

to remain agile and flexible to seek out opportunities and overcome the current challenges it faces.” he added.

Sea Asia 2013 also provides extensive networking opportunities for participants wishing to forge new business relationships or re-establish old ones. Networking events include the GAC Sea Asia 2013 Golf Classic, cocktail receptions, and a host of other activities in and around the exhibition hall.

The principal sponsors for Sea Asia 2013 are Anglo Eastern, DNB Bank ASA, Executive Ship Management, Keppel Offshore & Marine, Lloyd’s Register, NOL Group, and PSA Corporation Limited.

Other sponsors include ABB Pte. Ltd, ABS, Admiralty, AXS Marine, Class NK, DNV Petroleum Services, DVB Bank, GAC Group, GL, Holman Fenwick Willan, Ideocean, Lukoil Marine Lubricants, London Offshore Consultants, M3 Marine Group Pte Ltd, Marshall Islands Registry, MTM Ship Management Pte Ltd, Pacific International Lines, RightShip, Seaco, Siemens Pte Ltd, Singapore Telecommunications Ltd., Standard Chartered Bank, The Standard P&I Club, and Thome Group of Companies.

Visit www.sea-asia.com for more information.

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About the Organisers:

Seatrade

Covering the maritime globe: www.seatrade-global.com

Established over 40 years ago, Seatrade is a leader in maritime and cruise publications, conferences and exhibitions, training, awards and other special projects. Regular events include international trade exhibitions and conferences across all maritime sectors including Sea Asia and Seatrade Middle East Maritime, management training courses for shipping professionals, training seminars for travel agents and maritime award schemes, including the prestigious Seatrade Awards held at the Guildhall in London. Seatrade publications include magazines, supplements and yearbooks, whilst daily maritime news is provided online by Seatrade Global (www.seatrade-global.com/).

About the Singapore Maritime Foundation

Established in 2004, the Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) is a private sector-led organisation that seeks to develop and promote Singapore as an International Maritime Centre (IMC). As the representative voice for the commercial players of the maritime industry, SMF seeks to forge strong partnerships with the public and private sectors of the maritime industry. SMF spearheads initiatives to promote the diverse clusters of the maritime industry in Singapore and at international frontiers, and to attract young talents to join the sector. SMF is directed by its Board of Directors which comprises prominent leaders in the Singapore maritime community. For details, visit www.smf.com.sg.

About Singapore Maritime Week

Singapore Maritime Week (SMW) is the leading maritime event in Singapore. Driven by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), SMW gathers the international maritime community in Singapore for a week of conferences, dialogues, exhibitions and social events in celebration of all things maritime. The range of activities and events organised by MPA, the industry, and research and educational institutions, as well as the cosmopolitan profile of participants, reflect the vibrancy and diversity of Singapore as a major international maritime centre.

SMW has grown in size and significance since the inaugural event in 2006, and is attracting more participants and event organisers from around the world. Participants can experience something new every year, as activities are added to the line-up, and as eminent speakers share their insights and participate in dialogues on topical maritime issues. This dynamism and the good range of issues discussed during SMW are major draws for maritime decision-makers, as are the many business networking platforms. This is why Singapore Maritime Week is all about PEOPLE, IDEAS and OPPORTUNITIES for the maritime community.

For more information and the full calendar of events, please visit www.smw.sg.

Helix Media: Public & media relations for SEA ASIA 2013:

Edward Ion/ Toby Ingram: +65 6222 6375

Mobile: +65 9111 6871 / +65 9176 4273

Email: edward.ion@helixmedia.asia / toby.ingram@helixmedia.asia