



Sea Asia 2013 – Day Three Sees Further Crowds at the Exhibition; Great turnout in Gas Transportation session – shale gas debate dominates
Shipyard Technology Session also full this morning

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Day Three of Sea Asia, the region's leading conference and exhibition for the shipping and maritime industries, showed no signs of slowing down on the morning of its final day. The conference was led by lively and entertaining sessions on the gas markets and the latest shipyard technology.

In particular, the game-changing impact of shale gas on the global energy market and the supply of LNG vessels dominated a high-powered gas transportation session.

Session Chairman Yudhishthir Khatau, President of BIMCO, Chairman and Managing Director of Varun Shipping Ltd, noted that shale gas will have a significant impact on energy demand and the pattern of development in countries such as China and India.

He suggested countries such as China, attempting to boost their adoption of shale gas, need to build infrastructure to cope with cracking mechanisms used to produce the gas first.

"I have no doubt that China has the capacity to build this infrastructure quickly, and we could eventually see a scenario in which China becomes energy self-sufficient due to the shale gas phenomenon," he said.

Carsten Ostenfeldt, Chief Executive Officer of session sponsor Thome Ship Management, told delegates that "shale gas is a game changer – even within the context of the technological challenges shale gas presents. It has the capacity to completely change world energy consumption patterns," he said.

Abhishek Pandey, Regional Head, South and South East Asia, Shipping Finance, of Standard Chartered Bank, gave a note of caution on the shale gas phenomenon.

He said: “The development of the technology to produce shale is capital intensive and not every country with shale gas reserves has this technology. It can be bought of course, but that takes time and investment.

“Another factor is the environmental aspect – how many countries around the world have regulatory regimes which currently encourage this kind of technological development?”

Around 100 delegates at the transportation session also heard about the impact of shale gas on the LNG fleet. There was a consensus that vessel ordering could be downscaled if countries get to grips with utilising their onshore domestic shale gas deposits.

Sea Asia, which articulates the voice of the Asian maritime communities, has captured the imagination of the global shipping community. It was officially opened on Tuesday 9 April by Singapore’s Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam.

Sea Asia 2013 occupies almost 17,000 sqm of gross space at Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Centre in an exhibition of 385 maritime businesses from 36 countries. There are country pavilions from China, Holland, Japan, Korea, Norway, Panama, Qatar, Singapore and the UK.

Ends

For more information about **Sea Asia 2013**, visit www.sea-asia.com.

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.

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For further information about Sea Asia, please visit the website: www.sea-asia.com