

## **FACT SHEET**

### **ABOUT SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME AWARDS**

The Singapore International Maritime Awards recognise companies for their commitment in making Singapore their base for shipping operations. The awards ceremony / gala dinner at Shangri-La Hotel will be attended by 700 maritime luminaries and other influential shipping representatives.

#### ***Maritime Finance Incentive Award (New)***

The Maritime Finance Incentive, or MFI, was established to encourage ship leasing companies, shipping funds or shipping business trusts to use Singapore as a base for ship financing. For the first time, four companies will receive the MFI award. They are:

1. First Ship Lease Pte Ltd
2. Pacific Shipping Trust
3. Tailwind Shipping Pte Ltd
4. Uni-Asia Capital (Singapore) Limited

#### ***New Award Categories***

Five new awards will also be given out for the first time to recognise individuals or companies that have made outstanding contributions to the development of Singapore as a global hub port and international maritime centre.

##### **(i) Bunker Award – Presented to ExxonMobil Marine Fuels**

This award recognises an outstanding bunker supplier or bunker tanker operator that has demonstrated commitment to quality standards and assurances, customer satisfaction, and contribution to Singapore's bunkering industry.

ExxonMobil Marine Fuels is a global leader in supplying high quality marine fuels for over 100 years. It has an established reputation for safety, quality and reliability and operates one of the most modern bunker barge fleet in the world. The company also has an excellent safety record since 2000. With Singapore as its regional office for Asia-Pacific, ExxonMobil Marine Fuels demonstrates a strong commitment to growing its business in Singapore.

**(ii) SRS Ship Owner of the Year – Presented to Neptune Orient Lines Limited**

This award is given to the outstanding owner of quality ships under the Singapore Registry of Ships or SRS.

The NOL Group has more than 10,000 staff globally and is one of the largest ship owners under the SRS. NOL's commitment to maintaining a quality fleet is manifested in a number of their ships achieving the US Qualship 21 award and achieving a perfect record of zero detentions for the past three years.

**(iii) Excellence in Training Development Award – Presented to NYK Shipmanagement Pte Ltd**

This award category recognises the company that has demonstrated commitment and excellence in training and development.

NYK Shipmanagement Pte Ltd was established in 2001 and has since expanded rapidly. The company sponsors and provides many opportunities to develop its staff. In Singapore, the company used the Integrated Simulation Centre extensively to train many of its senior Merchant Marine Officers. The company will be establishing a Maritime Training Centre in Singapore, which will provide advanced training for up to 450 of its senior Merchant Marine officers from all over the world annually. The company's Training Centre would further enhance Singapore as a premier Maritime Education and Training Centre.

**(iv) Outstanding Maritime R&D and Technology Award – Presented to NewEarth Pte Ltd**

The Outstanding Maritime R&D and Technology Award is given to a company or research institution for outstanding innovation in the application or research and development of technology for the maritime industry.

NewEarth's Crystallisation Technology enables the cost effective treatment and recycling of toxic marine and industrial wastes into environmentally safe and useful construction products, with no residual waste or harmful by-products. The technology is a breakthrough as it helps to better utilise Singapore's limited land and sea space by extending the lifespan of limited dumping grounds and reducing the costs of pollution prevention. The Crystallisation Technology helps Singapore in its goal to be an environment-friendly place.

## **(v) International Maritime Centre (IMC) Award**

There are two awards to be presented under this category, **Corporate** and **Individual**.

### ***IMC Award (Corporate) – presented to Pacific International Lines Ltd***

The International Maritime Centre Award (Corporate) is given to the company that has contributed significantly to the Singapore economy as well as its development as an International Maritime Centre.

Pacific International Lines Ltd, also known as PIL, has made significant contributions to the Singapore economy and to Singapore's development as an International Maritime Centre (IMC). In January 2006, PIL was ranked No. 4 in the Singapore International 1000 Ranking and first in terms of overseas revenue among Singapore's privately owned companies. PIL is also the 19<sup>th</sup> largest container liner company in the world and employs more than 1,800 staff here.

This year, the company successfully launched Pacific Shipping Trust, Singapore's first listed shipping business trust in 2006. Its success helped to raise the profile of Singapore's shipping industry and ship financing sector onto the global map.

PIL is a strong advocator for the training of both Singaporeans and foreigners so as to increase the talent pool available in Singapore for the benefit of our maritime industry. PIL is also an active corporate citizen, having contributed humanitarian aid and shipments to non-profit charitable organisations.

### ***IMC Award (Individual) – presented to Tan Sri Frank Tsao***

The International Maritime Centre Award (Individual) is given to a person who has supported the development of Singapore as a maritime centre and is an active member of society with notable achievements.

Tan Sri Frank Tsao is the founder and Chairman of International Maritime Carriers Ltd (IMC). Under his direction, IMC moved its operational headquarters and bulk shipping operations to Singapore in the early 90s. At the time of the shift, the Singapore office owned and managed over 40 ships. Today the office operates a fleet of over 80 ships, including dry bulk carriers, chemical tankers and general purpose vessels.

Tan Sri Frank Tsao follows the shipping developments in Singapore passionately, offering much of his personal time to expound on concepts and ideas which would drive Singapore's growth as an International Maritime Centre. He was instrumental in developing Singapore's Approved International Shipping Enterprise (AIS) Scheme which has successfully attracted many shipping

companies to Singapore. Tan Sri Frank Tsao is also very active in developing the maritime services sector in Singapore. He is the key driver in the establishment of the NUS Centre for Maritime Studies. The Centre aims to provide a national platform where industry, the public sector and academia can actively collaborate and contribute to maritime research and development. Apart from initiating the idea of establishing such a centre, the IMC Group contributed a donation of S\$1 million towards the funding of the Centre.

Tan Sri Frank Tsao is a strong supporter of the 'Friends of Admiral Zheng He' Society, which aims to raise the interest and appreciation of Singapore's maritime culture. In addition, the Tsao family also contributes actively to the community, through the good work done by the non-profit Tsao Foundation and the East West Cultural Development Centre.

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