

**MARITIME
PILOTAGE**
CONFERENCE

THE IMPORTANCE OF REGULATION AND BEST PRACTICE

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 **AMPI**
Assoc. Marine
Pilots Ireland

WELCOME



I want to welcome you all to the fantastic city of Galway, and we hope you agree it is a perfect setting for our event. I want to thank our generous sponsors and speakers, without whom this event would not have been possible.

As an association, we have always endeavoured to promote and protect our profession, whether with our national administration or through our international colleagues at EMPA and IMPA, of which we are proud to be members. We must also mention our good friends at the UKMPA who we work closely with.

As pilots, we understand the importance of collaboration. We depend on the support of the pilot launch crew, tug crews, and other port services to carry out our duties effectively. Equally, we are reliant on regulation and the constant evaluation of our profession to keep pace with the changes in the world of shipping.

“The importance of regulation and best practice”. Why is it important? Pilotage is a constantly evolving, challenging and rewarding profession. Our economy relies on Irish ports for 95% of our nation’s imports and exports. Therefore, our members must maintain the highest standards to ensure its continued success.

But we are not just there for economic purposes; we must also ensure the safe passage of ships to protect the Marine Environment and safeguard lives and public infrastructure.

As professionals, what can we do to ensure we are well-prepared? Together with our national and port authorities, we can constantly examine how we operate. We can do this by working with our colleagues internationally and by looking at several factors:

- Ensuring our training programs are robust and comply with the best practice standards worldwide is imperative.
- Our minimum entry requirements are sufficient.
- We are enacting continuous professional development initiatives tailored to the evolving global trends.
- We review international accident investigations and our procedures and then adopt recommendations to prevent accidents.
- Establishing national legislation that aligns with international best practices in pilotage organisation is essential. This will ensure that our services operate safely and continue to serve the public interest.
- As a country, are we playing our part in worldwide issues, such as developing our understanding of emission reduction possibilities?

AMPI see it as our responsibility to work with our national authorities on these issues.

I hope that you all enjoy this conference and look forward to meeting you all during the day.

Padraig Condon
AMPI Chairman

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PROGRAMME

OCTOBER 3RD 2023

10:00 **REGISTRATION OPEN**

10:45 - 12:00 **SESSION 1**

Opening Address | Pdraig Condon AMPI Chairman

Senator Gerard Craughwell

Keynote Speech Brian Sheridan

Pilotage from a shipowner's perspective John Conlon

Q&A

12:00- 13:15 **LUNCH**

Kindly sponsored by the Port of Cork Company

13:15 - 14:30 **SESSION 2**

The Organisation of Pilotage in Europe Aileen Van Raemdonck

*Marine Casualties - What to expect when the unexpected happens
Donal Keaney*

Q&A

14:30 - 15:15 **AFTERNOON BREAK**

Kindly sponsored by the Port of Cork Company

15:15 - 16:45 **SESSION 3**

When all goes wrong Arie Palmers

*PPU Systems - Case studies and new technology to provide Situational
Awareness and decision support for Pilots Andy Natrass*

Q&A

Closing Address | Patrick Galvin AMPI Secretary

18:30 **EVENING RECEPTION**

Kirby's/ Busker Brownes Restaurant

Kindly sponsored by SafeHaven Marine Ltd.



Transportation will be provided from the conference venue to the restaurant and back to the hotel again that evening.

Timings of the transport will be confirmed on the day of the event.

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SPEAKERS



Senator Gerard Craughwell

*Independent Senator in Seanad Eireann and
Member of the Oireachtas Transport Committee*

Since his election in October 2014, Gerard has made a very significant contribution to the legislative process by proposing amendments to a wide range of Bills. He has remained true to his promise not be “whipped by any party” and to “consider each vote as it arises”. He is passionate about the value of the Independent Politician as a leader and advocate of honest politics.

Brian Sheridan

Harbour Master at the Port of Galway

Brian’s seagoing career was with the Danish shipping giant A. P. Møller, being the world’s largest shipping company (MAERSK), began when he joined his first LPG/C Tanker Maersk Commander in November 1987. His career brought him from the rank of Deck Cadet to Master with A.P. Møller trading on many vessel types, but his expertise is in the operation of LPG Tankers. In December 1999, he ‘came ashore’ to the Port at Galway, where he fulfils a wide-ranging role. In October 2000, commenced the long process of preparing the Port Expansion.



John Conlon

Arklow Shipping

John is from Black Rock in Co Louth. He started his career in the maritime industry in 2003 with Arklow Shipping Limited. He is qualified as a Master Mariner, has served in many roles onboard ships, and is currently working as Marine Superintendent, Designated Person Ashore and Company Security Officer for Arklow Shipping.



Aileen Van Raemdonck

Secretary General EMPA

Aileen is from just outside Antwerp in Belgium. She has been the Secretary General of the European Maritime Pilots' Association (EMPA) since 2018. Previously, she has been engaged as a European Policy Advisor and Data Protection Officer at EMPA's member association, Brabo Harbour Pilots in Antwerp. Before taking her position at Brabo, she worked for five years in different roles in a consultancy firm and the European Parliament as an Accredited Parliamentary Assistant and a Policy Advisor's Assistant in the Legal Affairs Committee.



Donal Keaney

Master Mariner/Maritime Lawyer

Donal has over 25 years of experience in the shipping sector, 10 of which have been spent in a legal environment. He has a broad range of expertise, including casualty management and investigation and advising clients on wet and dry shipping matters. Donal served at sea up to the rank of chief officer on vessels trading worldwide, including gas carriers, container vessels and RoRo and RoPax ferries. Donal has also worked ashore in both ship management and commercial roles.

Arie Palmers

Maritime Pilot Nederlands Loodswezen

Arie is from the Netherlands and started working at sea in 1993 as a navy officer on mine countermeasure vessels. In 2001, he switched to the justice department, where he sailed on training vessels, first as Chief Mate and later as Captain, to work with juvenile delinquents to make them ready for society again; after that, he worked on offshore vessels and tugboats. In 2008, Arie started in Vlissingen as a trainee Pilot and has been piloting ever since; my working area is Wester- and Oosterschelde, with adjacent ports and the sea area.



Andy Natrass

Navigation and Piloting Sales Manager Trelleborg

Andy is a Technical Sales Specialist for Trelleborg Marine Systems, focussing on Navigation and piloting. He is a former Navigational officer, having worked for Maersk, Odfjell Tankers, Royal Fleet Auxiliary and oil/gas/renewables maritime operations. In his spare time, Andy loves nothing more than getting out on a ship and training and demonstrating the latest technology.

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