

Lloyd's List Greek Awards 2012



Michael Bodouroglou (right) receives the Greek Shipping Personality of the Year Award from Lambros Varnavides, managing director and global head of shipping for RBS.



Evangelos Marinakis (right) presents the International Personality of the Year Award to Johan Pedersson Uggle, managing director of APM Terminals, Denmark. Mr Uggle accepted the posthumous award on behalf of his grandfather, Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller.



Dagfinn Lunde, managing director of DVB Bank, accepts the bank's award as Shipping Financier of the Year from Star Bulk Carriers director Milena Pappas.



Greece's minister of shipping, Kostis Mousouroulis (right), presents the Shipbroker of the Year Award to Dimitris Koukas, managing director of winner Optima Shipbrokers.



Harry Vafias (left) of StealthGas accepts the Newsmaker of the Year Award from sponsor George Xiradakis.

Greek Awards honour both young guns and seasoned campaigners

Audience of 1,000 hails winners ranging from one of the oldest shipping firms to one of the youngest chief executives

NIGEL LOWRY – ATHENS

WINNERS at the Lloyd's List Greek Shipping Awards for 2012, presented in front of a capacity 1,000-strong audience in Athens on Friday, truly spanned the generations as venerable old names of the industry were honoured alongside some of the brightest new stars of the business.

The judges' choice of Tanker Company of the Year was a case in point as Neda Maritime Agency, the management arm of the Lykiardopolus group, prevailed. Neda's history as a formal entity goes back to the 1880s and the family's involvement in shipping stretches even further.

Neda can claim to have taken delivery of newbuildings in three different centuries, the latest of which were this year's high-specification pair of very large crude carriers, *Aragona* and *Aquila*.

Meanwhile, Aegean Bulk took the Dry Cargo Company of the Year accolade as a quality operator that has been in the vanguard of reducing the environmental footprint of dry bulk operations. In doing so, the Angelopoulos family group, which

had previously taken the tanker award for sibling company Arcadia Shipmanagement, became the youngest winner of both wet and dry categories.

A highlight of the glittering dinner ceremony, which was backed by lead sponsor ClassNK and numerous reputable award sponsors and prestigious supporting, was a posthumous International Personality of the Year Award to Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller, who died earlier this year, aged 98. His grandson Johan Pedersson Uggle, who heads APM Terminals, Denmark, accepted the award — which was effectively a tribute from the Greek shipping community to one of the giants of modern shipping — on his behalf.

Another elder statesman of the industry to be honoured was shipowner Stavros Daifas, who took the prestigious Lloyd's List / Propeller Club Lifetime Achievement Award.

By contrast, Lloyd's List chose as Greek shipping's Newsmaker of the Year for 2012 Harry Vafias, who has adroitly steered his liquefied petroleum gas carrier and tanker company StealthGas through the market storm after first making headlines as the youngest chief executive of a publicly listed shipping firm.

The judges named shipowner Michael Bodouroglou as Greek Shipping Personality of the Year for a busy 2012 at the helm of two public companies, Paragon Shipping and



Greek shipping minister Kostis Mousouroulis addresses a packed audience of 1,000 dinner guests at the Lloyd's List Greek Shipping Awards last Friday night.

Box Ships, as well as private vehicle Allseas Marine, which has pounced on distressed bulkers recently.

Danaos Corp was another US-listed owner to walk away with a prestigious trophy, this time for Ship Of the Year — for the recently delivered 13,000 teu containership *Hyundai Ambition*.

Another major boxship company, Costamare, saw one of its masters honoured as Seafarer of the Year. Capt Athanasios Pagkalos was recognised for rescuing an ailing 72-year-old Canadian yachtsmen in distress during the summer when he steered his vessel *Navarino* to the sailor's rescue about 1,000 miles off Hawaii.

In a grim year for the Greek ferry trades, Blue Star Ferries won the Passenger Line of the Year Award for its investment in quality new tonnage and its commitment to a programme of social responsibility, with a particular focus on the islands it serves.

Major service awards went to DVB Bank as Shipping Financier of the Year and Optima Shipbrokers. DVB was recognised as one of the few remaining actively financing banks in a year which underlined its commitment to the Greek shipping sector.

Greece-based Optima stood out in the judges' opinion for its expansion

geographically and as a full, one-stop shop service despite the difficult market for brokers.

The Piraeus International Centre Award was presented to Cosco Pacific-affiliate Piraeus Container Terminal for the Asian giant's landmark investment in the Greek port and subsequent efficient management of the facility that has attracted increased usage.

This year's Technical Achievement Award went to the Greek section of the international Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, which was named the organisation's Top Super Section in a recent annual meeting held in the US.

One of Greece's leading shipping groups, the Tsakos Group was recognised for Achievement in Safety or Environmental Protection, while the Hydra Maritime Academy, the oldest such academy in Europe, received the Education or Training prize.

Another historic note was rung when author and historian George M Foustanos received the special Man of the Sea Award for 2012 for a career of chronicling modern Greek shipping history, which has included 30 books.

The awards, with the exception of Newsmaker of the Year, were decided

WINNERS 2012

Dry Cargo Company of the Year
Aegean Bulk Co

Tanker Company of the Year
Neda Maritime Agency

Passenger Line of the Year
Blue Star Ferries

Shipbroker of the Year
Optima Shipbrokers

Shipping Financier of the Year
DVB Bank

Ship of the Year
Hyundai Ambition

Technical Achievement Award
SNAME Greek Section

Piraeus International Centre Award
Piraeus Container Terminal

International Personality of the Year
Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller

Seafarer of the Year
Capt Athanasios Pagkalos

Award for Achievement in Education or Training
Hydra Maritime Academy

Man of the Sea
George M Foustanos

Award for Achievement in Safety or Environmental Protection
The Tsakos Group

Lloyd's List/Propeller Club Lifetime Achievement Award
Stavros Antonios Daifas

Greek Shipping Newsmaker of the Year
Harry Vafias

Greek Shipping Personality of the Year
Michael Bodouroglou

by a prestigious, independent panel of Greek maritime personalities chaired by the secretary-general emeritus of the International Maritime Organization, Efthimios Mitropoulos. ■

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