



Newsletter - April 2002

Committee Meetings

Our Branch Committee has carried on with its meetings as usual on the first Wednesday of every month at 18:45 hours at the Alassia Hotel in Limassol.

Membership and Education were again the main items of concern, together with our dedicated involvement for the successful progress of our course Understanding Shipping, the organising of the Spring 2002 Examinations of our Institute, Subscriptions, our Members' Annual Dinner held on 1st March 2002, the preparation and participation at the Controlling Council Meeting (CCM) held in Dubai on 3rd March, 2002 which the Chairman has attended as a Controlling Council Member and others.

Membership

Our Membership as at today has as follows:

FICS	27
MICS	25
Retired FICS	4
MICS	2
Affiliates	3

During the CCM in Dubai our member Mr. Michael Kazandjis has been unanimously approved for promotion to Fellowship.

Education / DLC

Out of the 77 Students originally registered, a minor percentage is not following up their

studies due to various reasons including maternity, change of employment, etc. Overall however, the course is proceeding successfully and with enthusiasm, thanks to the wholehearted support of our Tutors.

We are currently on the average between the 5th and 6th Lesson but unlike last year, a large number of our Students are progressing quite well and they will be finishing their course much earlier than the final completion date of 10th July 2002. Thereafter they will have to attend their oral interview and sit for their written examinations.

What is impressive, is the keen interest and zeal of certain of the Students but again this situation prevails on the whole, within the Shipping Community in Cyprus. In many instances, visitors, Underwriters, Lawyers and others, acknowledge the high educational standards in Cyprus and the interest of the industry locally to further knowledge, education and expertise.

Since the stock of manuals initially printed for the course has nearly been depleted, it was considered necessary to incorporate in the new edition, corrections and updates. A tripartite sub-committee was formed, consisting of our Tutor Christos Tsangaris, our Secretary John Hadjiparaskevas and myself, which, after review had a further meeting with the Course Coordinator, Mr Ben Casey. All amendments were relayed to the Course Coordinator, who is meanwhile arranging for the printing of the new manuals.



Spring 2001 Examinations – Cyprus Exams Centre

ICS examinations have been organised by our Branch between the 18th April and the 26th April 2002, with the assistance of Foley's Grammar School, who have again provided the necessary invigilators.

The venue was the Alassia Hotel and 25 Students were registered for the examinations. Members of our Committee attended our Exams Centre daily. The examinations were carried out in a very efficient and professional manner.

ICS Controlling Council Meeting (CCM)

The last CCM was held in Dubai on the 3rd March 2002 and it was efficiently organised by the United Arab Emirates Branch.

Attendees

The CCM was attended by the President Mr. James Freeland, the Chairman Mr. Gordon McMillan, the Vice President Mr. Anthony Cooke, the immediate Past Chairman Mr Philip Wood, the Chairmen of the Education and Training Committee, the Finance Committee, the Federation Council, and the Director Mr. D.A. Phillips.

Also present were delegates from London (Head Office) and the Branches of Cyprus, East Anglia, Europe, the Gulf and Pakistan, Humber, India, Ireland, Liverpool, the UK North East Zone, Newcastle, the Pacific Rim, Scotland, South Africa, South Asia, Southampton, South Wales & the West and Sri Lanka.

Agenda

The Agenda included as usual subjects for reporting, discussion and action, concerning Finance, Professional Membership

(applications for promotions, elections and re-elections, resignations, strike-offs, etc), Company Membership, FONASBA, ECASBA, Publicity and Marketing, Education and Training, review of the Institute's Standard Trading Conditions, Branches and Branch Reporting and the Institutes Development Plan 2002 / 6.

Development Plan

The development plan initiated two years ago is now ready for implementation and a number of proposals were put forward. A much more effective website was considered a priority for becoming the primary means of disseminating information about the Institute, allowing on-line Students' registration, as well as communicating with the Institute.

The image and standing of the Institute in the shipping industry was also discussed, as an improvement in this area would bring significant benefits in terms of an enhanced profile. The aim should be to ensure that the Institute is perceived as the most important and influential body in the industry and therefore those joining this industry would wish to be Members, for professional recognition.

Finance

The report of the Finance Committee Chairman was tabled and reviewed. Branches reporting, financial status and other activities were discussed, as well as the availability of increased funding for training courses within Europe.

We are happy to report that the recommendation by the Finance Committee to maintain the Membership subscriptions at the current levels for this year was passed unanimously.

List of Members

The Institute represents professionals working in all aspects of the shore-side shipping



business worldwide with Membership in 63 countries. It collaborates closely with such international bodies as BIMCO, IMO, UNCTAD, INTERTANKO, INTERCARGO and the Baltic Exchange and it is moving ahead and building on its growing international reputation as the education provider of choice to the shipping industry.

Consequently the list of Members being a necessity, a decision is to be taken in due course regarding the production of a list either in a loose-leaf paper version, similar to the Baltic Exchange List, or a CD-Rom version, where the spare space on the disk could be used to provide other services and commercial information for Members.

General

During the visit to Dubai the Controlling Council was honoured by being afforded an audience with his Highness the Crown Prince of Dubai, who strongly supported the ICS mission.

A guided tour at the ports of Dubai and Khor Fakkan was impressive. Properly equipped and well-run ports 24 hours a day, new third generation gantry cranes, forklifts trucks, straddle carriers and other machinery, open and covered storage area facilities and silos, carefully planned expansion and ample availability of space, deepwater facilities to accommodate even the new breed of container vessels currently built, extensive and modern Free Zones supported with tax incentives, new road networks and sophisticated cities springing out of the sand dunes, all reveal the commitment, the effort and the heavy investment of the local Emirates in the shipping industry.

Employment of foreign specialists and an educated workforce mainly from India and Sri Lanka fully supports the management and generates the impetus for further investments.

Subscriptions

Notifications about the renewal of our Membership Subscriptions will be sent out shortly to all our Members.

We would appreciate your usual response for the soonest settlement, to enable us to coordinate accordingly with the ICS head office.

Website

We are in the process of designing a website for profiling our Branch. It will include information about our Institute, list all our Members, their address and contact numbers, provide details about our local activities and links with other Branches, posting our Newsletter, etc.

We would appreciate to hear the views of our Members about any specific information they would like to be included within our website.

Taking the opportunity to relay all our best wishes for a very Happy Easter and enjoyable holidays to all our Members and their families,

Soterios Karantonis FICS., ACI Arb.
Chairman