



International Chamber of Shipping

Shaping the Future of Shipping

Join the conversation

Next



The world is changing.

The old compass points, are no longer always true.

Whilst ICS continues its advocacy work on behalf of the shipping industry with its regulators, including IMO, new technology, meeting our responsibilities to mitigate climate change, and the need to ensure sustainability are driving a revolution in global maritime transport.

Join us and together we can shape the future of shipping.





“
With collaboration between governments and shipping more vital than ever, the Government of Cyprus will continue to engage with ICS to promote sustainable economic growth, to revitalise global trade and to advance shipping’s transition to a greener future.
”

**Vassilios Demetriades,
Shipping Deputy Minister to the
President of the Republic of Cyprus**

ICS is the vision and the voice of shipping.

In a time of change, we provide adaptability, resilience, engagement and strategic leadership.

Representing over 80% of the world's merchant fleet.

And with equity, the environment and sustainability at the heart of our mission.

90% of global trade is moved by sea

11 billion tonnes of goods are shipped per year

\$14 trillion of goods are moved annually by sea

60% of all trade and goods moved by ship go to empowering and developing the global economy

Image: Satellite data image of global shipping movements (Grolltech)

Our global network of national associations and strategic partners gives ICS a powerful and cohesive voice when engaging with governments and inter-governmental organisations.

We advocate for the industry on all issues of maritime affairs, shipping policy and technical matters.

And we have a proven track record of developing policies in close consultation with members and in co-operation with our partners.

ICS members and partnerships are a vital part of our strength.

“ We place our international network of shipowners and operators at the forefront of every important policy development impacting the global shipping industry. As we continue to shape our trajectory towards sustainability, engagement with our members and external partners is vital to speaking with a common voice, getting us closer to our shared vision and blueprint for a more sustainable future.

”
**Emanuele Grimaldi,
Chair, ICS**



”

As the first non-governmental organisation granted consultative status at IMO, ICS is an indispensable industry voice as our organisation continues to develop and implement measures to improve safety and security, to facilitate trade and to address pollution.

”

**Kitack Lim,
Secretary-General, IMO**

”

The International Labour Organization brings together governments, employers and trade unions from 187 Member States, giving them an equal voice. ICS co-ordinates the representation of maritime employers at ILO meetings to very good effect, contributing to the success of this unique structure.

”

**Corinne Vargha,
Director of International Standards,
International Labour Organization**

Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC addresses the ICS *Shaping the Future of Shipping* conference at COP26.
Photo © ICS/Stuart Hemley.

Between ICS staff and members, there is a huge range of expertise.

The ICS Board, informed by a network of committees, sub-committees and panels (comprising ICS staff and national association members) shines a light into all aspects of the shipping world.

The depth and breadth of this knowledge results in ICS involvement in areas as specific as ILO minimum wage for seafarers, and as broad as the development of international shipping policy.

As a member, you have the opportunity to bring your expertise to ICS decision-making processes.

“

I am extremely proud of the ICS leadership role in the 'Maritime Just Transition Task Force', collaborating with UN bodies, seafarers' unions and other strategic partners, to ensure a safe, equitable and human-centred approach to shipping's transition towards a greener, decarbonised industry that is fit for the 21st century and beyond.

”

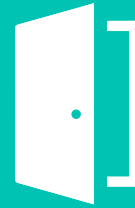
**Gerardo A. Borromeo,
CEO, PTC Holdings,
Board member for Filipino
Shipowners' Association**

Benefits of full membership

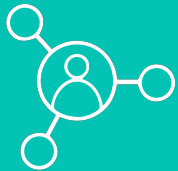
Our National Association full members have:



The **opportunity to appoint a director to the ICS Board**. Our board sets the global industry position for engagement with the UN system and other international bodies.



Access to the **ICS Secretariat Team, technical support and ICS Circulars** providing technical advice and guidance on regulatory matters.



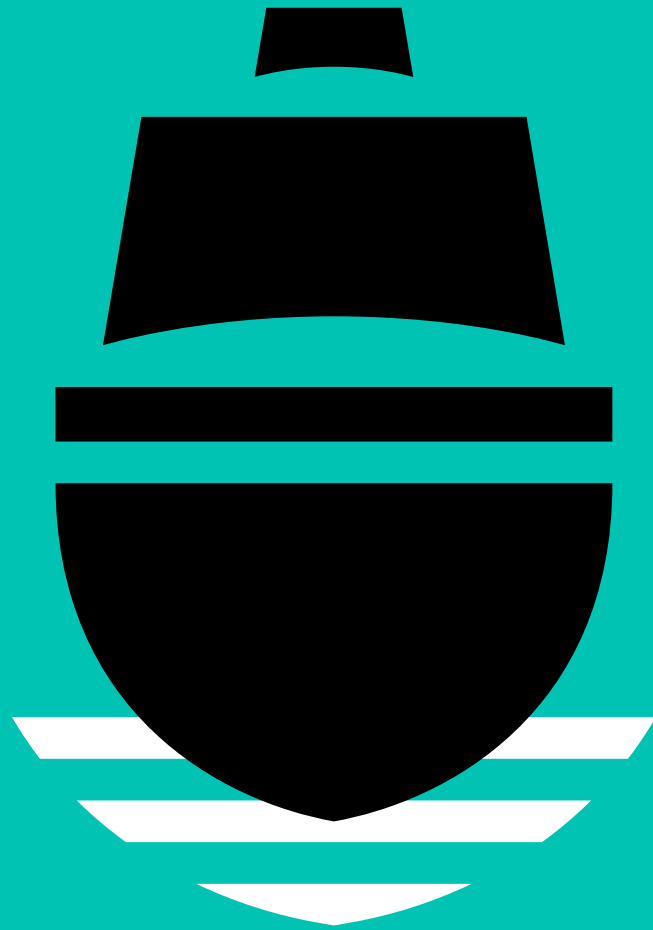
The opportunity to shape policy development via **ICS Committees** which advise the ICS Board and have considerable depth and breadth of industry knowledge.



Exclusive discounts on our industry recognised ICS Publications and ISF Watchkeeper software.

[Explore more >](#)

How your organisation will benefit from ICS membership



ADVOCACY AND
REPRESENTATION



RESEARCH AND
INNOVATION



TRUSTED STRATEGIC
LEADERSHIP



COMMUNITY AND
NETWORKING

TALK TO US ABOUT JOINING



Advocacy and representation

We engage strategically with governments.

We work with international regulators and collaborate with industry leaders.

We help our members to navigate unforeseen challenges and changing regulation.

“
The strong collaboration between governments and industry is key to enhance supply chain resilience and support decarbonisation efforts globally. ICS continues to play a key role on behalf of shipowners and operators to provide thought-leadership on maritime transformation and contribute to multilateral collaboration at the IMO and other global fora.

”
**Teo Eng Dih,
Chief Executive,
Maritime and Port Authority
of Singapore**





Advocacy and representation

When expert opinion is needed, ICS is at the forefront of the media.

Among the first to be consulted on events in the shipping world by media outlets, ICS frequently represents our members on the international stage.

“
ICS shapes global business advocacy strategies and interfaces with key regulatory decision-makers and thought-leaders at all levels.

Full ICS members direct and monitor this process, ensuring that the voice of the global shipping industry is heard on a very extensive range of issues.

”
John C Lyras,
Principal of Paralos Maritime Corporation S.A.,
ICS Board Member for the Union of Greek Shipowners





Research and innovation

We find **innovative ways** of thinking about the most pressing issues facing the shipping industry.

We collaborate with our members and international organisations to **research, write and publish** world-leading guidance and reports on issues as diverse as technology, security, safety, employment and the environment.

“
Evidence is central to what we do at ICS, placing research and innovation at the forefront of our decision-making.

Drawing from practical experience, we continue to develop and grow our portfolio of industry-leading resources, including benchmark commercial publications, free-to-use guidelines and state-of-the-art software.

”

**Guy Platten,
Secretary General, ICS**

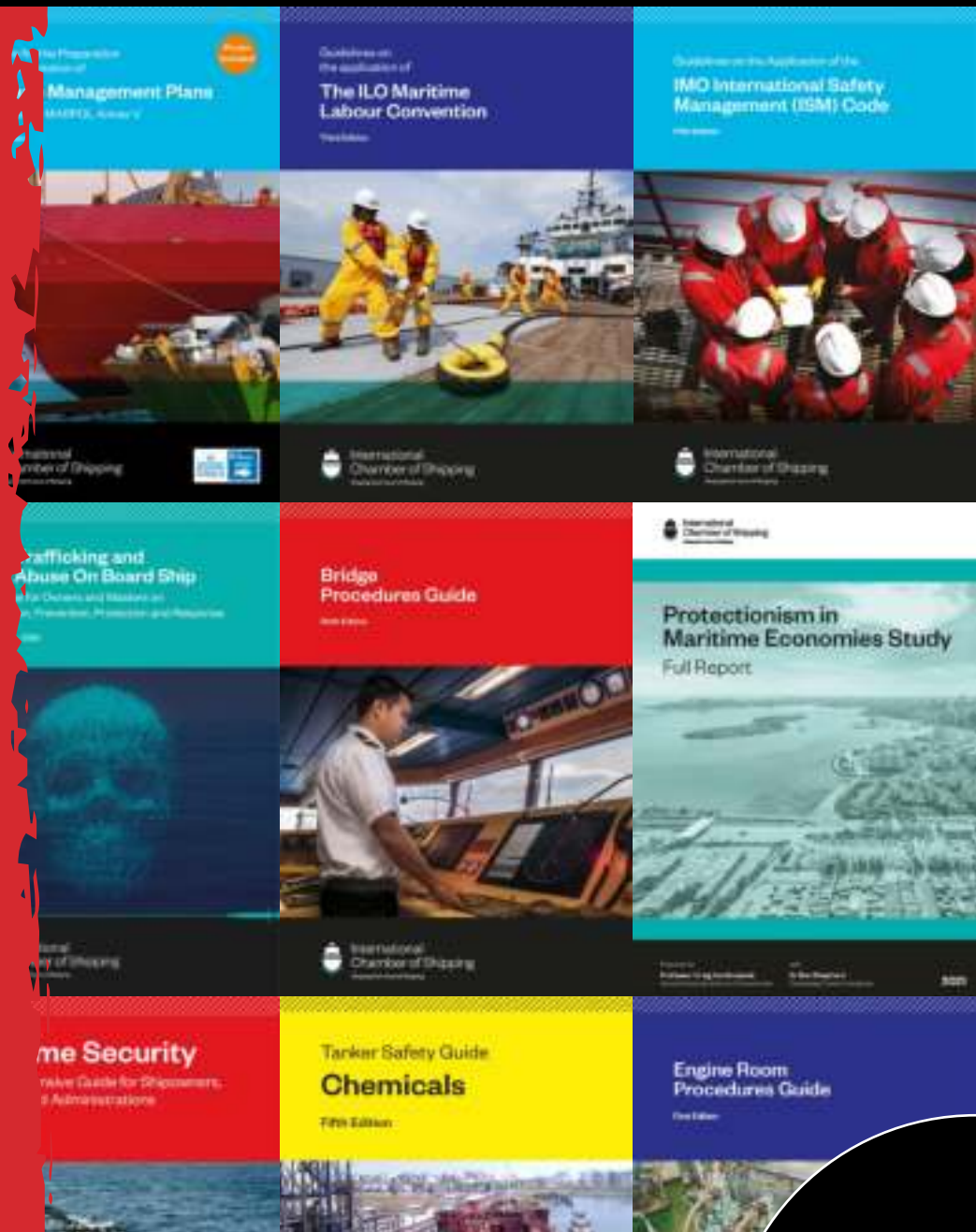




Research and innovation


Our in-depth research, written in collaboration with members, informs reports that are a vital source of knowledge for the industry.

Members benefit from exclusive discounts on ICS Publications. Rigorous in development and used and recommended by shipping companies globally, ICS Publications are an important complement to international regulations and are essential for every maritime bookcase.



Trusted strategic leadership

We use our depth and breadth of knowledge, together with our real world experience, to provide leadership and direction, to promote good governance and to ensure sustainability.



“
ITF and ICS played an essential co-ordinating role during the pandemic. Together, we led engagement with governments and international organisations to mitigate the impact of the crisis on the world's 1.2 million seafarers who worked through severe travel restrictions that often hindered their ability to get home.
”

**Steve Cotton,
Secretary General, International
Transport Workers' Federation**



ICS is leading on...

DECARBONISATION

As part of our commitment to support the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change we organised the high-level **Shaping the Future of Shipping Conference**. This event brought together the world's leading figures on decarbonisation, including government representatives, global and regional regulators, and policy-makers.

Our aim: to galvanise the political support needed to help expedite the industry's decarbonisation trajectory in a safe and equitable way.

SAFETY

ICS is at the forefront of safety ensuring that regulation, training and a safety culture is at the heart of the industry.

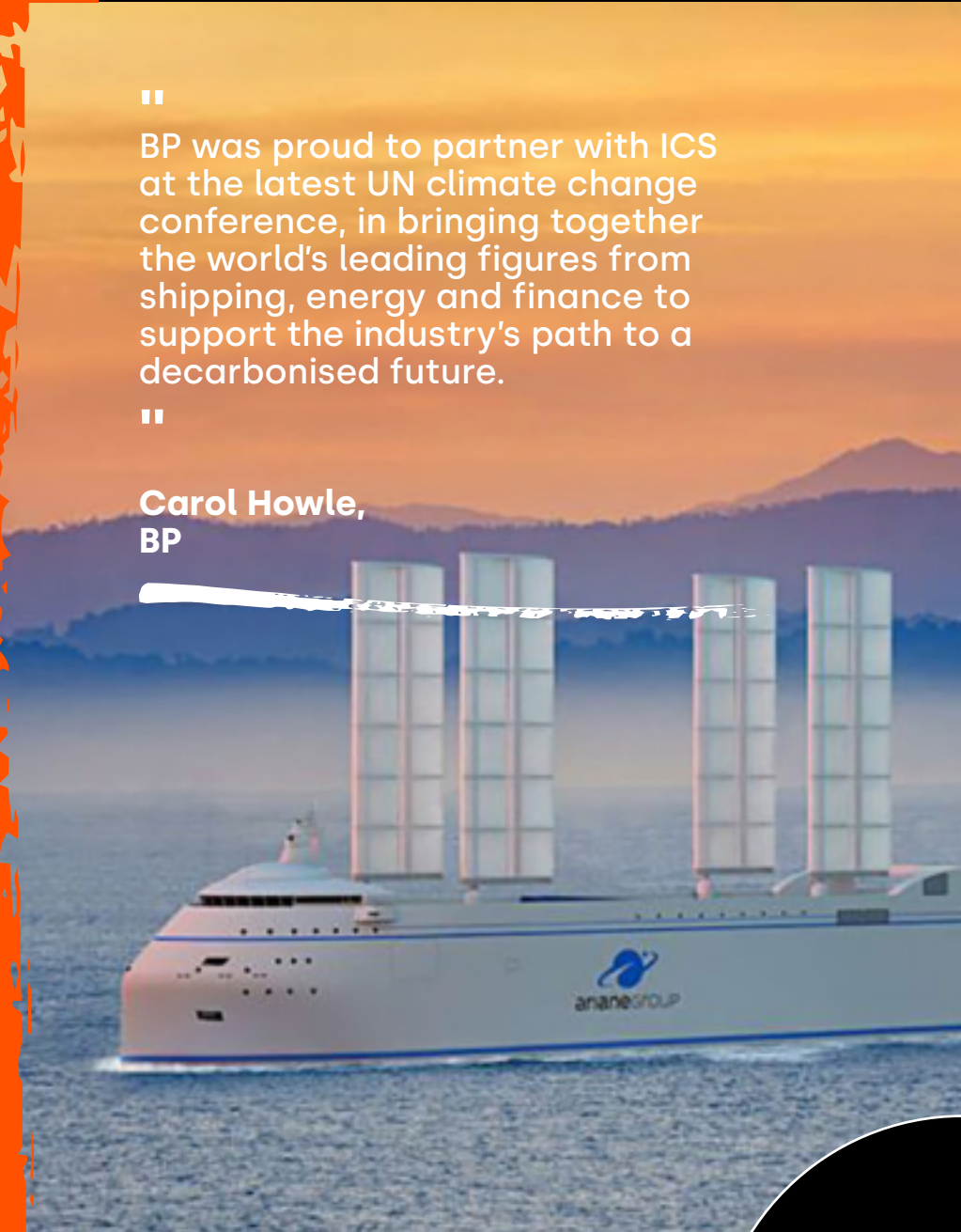
Our aim: to lead and develop safe operational standards that protect our workforce and the environment.

“

BP was proud to partner with ICS at the latest UN climate change conference, in bringing together the world's leading figures from shipping, energy and finance to support the industry's path to a decarbonised future.

”

**Carol Howle,
BP**





ICS is leading on...

EQUALITY

ICS has launched an inaugural **Maritime Diversity and Inclusion Charter** on International Women's Day (IWD).

Our aim: to encourage shipping companies to improve and review their diversity and inclusion practices and create opportunities for all, irrespective of gender, race, ethnic origin, nationality, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or religion.

BUSINESS DIALOGUE

ICS was **selected as a 'Network Partner' of the 2021 'Business Twenty' (B20)**, alongside organisations such as the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).

Our aim: to provide unique shipping industry insights to support the B20, in collaboration with other international and regional business organisations.



“ ICS is leading the way in promoting equal opportunities irrespective of gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, nationality, disability, age, sexual orientation, or religion, and continues to encourage women to join our industry. It takes the lead in celebrating and showcasing the variety of roles women already fulfil in the maritime sector, from cadet to CEO.

**Karin Orsel,
CEO MF Shipping Group,
Chair of ICS Diversity Panel**



Networking

ICS facilitates knowledge sharing, collaboration and networking amongst the shipping community via our innovative research, our inspiring webinar programme, and high-level networking events and conferences.

“
At IAPH we view our longstanding cooperation with ICS as an indispensable conduit to identify points of convergence between our sectors, especially during times of considerable uncertainty and volatility worldwide.
”

**Patrick Verhoeven,
International Association of
Ports and Harbours**



Community

ICS hosts a number of high-profile and high-impact events, both online and face-to-face, that facilitate networking and collaboration between governments, our members and the shipping community as a whole.

ICS Maritime Hub

Based in the City of London, the **ICS Maritime Hub** is a suite of meeting rooms and other facilities. Boasting high-definition multimedia platforms that offer Teams conferencing, they also have easy digital content sharing options.



JOIN

ICS is setting a course
for a zero carbon future
and is **shaping the future of
shipping.**

Be a part of the journey.

Talk to us about joining:

membership@ics-shipping.org



GO BACK TO THE START