



Two international bodies chose to host their global meetings in Cape Town recently. The International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI) held their annual meeting in September, to be followed by the International Salvage Union (ISU) in October.

That's certainly good news for Cape Town, but also served to highlight that the year is no where near ready to wind down. In fact there are still a number of events scheduled before the end of 2018 including the AMSOL Marine Golf Day, a Damen Fishing Seminar in South Africa as well as a major conference towards the end of November in Kenya.

The Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Nairobi is aiming to attract over 4,000 international delegates from 26 - 28 November. And with no cover charge attached, the organisers have set about covering a wide variety of topics including smart shipping, job creation, infrastructure development, sustainable energy, as well as safety and security. The aim is to discuss the emergence of an inclusive blue economy for the continent.

Organised by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the conference will be co-hosted by Canada and Japan. All things being equal, I am aiming to travel to Kenya for the conference and will be able to share input in a future issue.

They are, however, competing with the 20th edition of Intermodal Africa which takes place in Accra, Ghana from 27 - 29 November. The two-day conference programme will feature 30 speakers addressing topical issues and challenges on global transportation and logistics attended by a gathering of 400 delegates from across Africa.

But getting back to this current issue and recent events. At the opening dinner of the ISU 64th meeting, South African salvage master, Captain Sloane, was honoured with a special citation from the Society of Master Mariners of South Africa (see page 18). We posted the news on our Facebook page and were overwhelmed by the response the post received from the international maritime community - making it one of the most shared and comment-

ed on posts of the year so far.

This response proves that the industry is generous to award recognition where it is due and highlights the need to find more good-news stories that we can share.

Our approach to delivering news and content will change slightly in 2019 as we use the print magazine to delve deeper into topics and engage more substantially with the industry for expert opinion and comments. This means that our digital platforms will be developed more fully to share news as it happens.

Our website is currently undergoing a revamp for launch in the new year and will become your one-stop-shop for maritime media resources. Our aim is to make it your first port of call when you need information about the industry. And if you are unable to find the information you are looking for, please engage with us so that we can help you to compile the information you need.

The current weekly emailed newsletter has proven immensely popular. Our plan is to separate the tenders from the newsletter and send these out twice a week to ensure that readers are kept abreast of new opportunities as they are released. The news and events email will continue to be sent once a week.

We have a few more changes and additional offerings on the cards, but will provide more information as they are launched.

The South African Maritime Industry Awards will return to the calendar in 2019. This has also been slightly revamped and will, once again, be used to raise money for notable causes in the maritime sector. Watch out for details of how to nominate your peers.

In the meantime, we have one more issue to deliver before the year end and our deadlines are rather tight. The last issue of the year will include a feature on ENGINES AND PROPULSION as well as on the BUNKER INDUSTRY.

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