

SPECIAL ISSUE

FLAGSHIP

SPECIAL ISSUE AT
POSIDONIA
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**NEWS FROM
THE WORLD'S
LEADING SHIP
REGISTRY**

Liberia the main beneficiary as Greek controlled fleet hits record deadweight

The Greek Shipping Co-operation Committee (GSCC) has confirmed that Liberia is the leading independent ship register of choice for Greek-controlled shipping companies, second only to the Greek flag itself.

Figures just released by the GSCC show that, in the year ended 31 March, 2012, Liberia experienced a net increase of 38 Greek-controlled ships aggregating 4.63m dwt – comfortably more than twice the number of vessels secured by any other ship registry. In



Last year, Liberia welcomed no fewer than 215 newbuildings to its rapidly growing fleet. Pictured is the 84,216 gt crude oil tanker "Almi Horizon," built at the Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering Company, Korea, for Greek shipping company, Almi Tankers SA, and registered with Liberia in December 2011.

the same twelve-month period, Panama and Cyprus, respectively, lost 33 and 25 Greek-controlled ships. In deadweight terms, seventeen per cent of Greek-controlled ships are now registered with Liberia, compared to 22 per cent flying the Greek flag.

Although the Greek-controlled fleet decreased in terms of ship numbers in the year under review from 3,848 to 3,760 vessels, the GSCC says that gross tonnage rose from 153.13m gt to 155.90m gt, while, in deadweight terms, the increase was from 261.68m dwt to 264.05m dwt, a new record in the 25 years since the GSCC first published statistics. The latest

figures include 437 newbuildings, aggregating more than 25m dwt, on order with shipyards around the world.

Scott Bergeron, CEO of the Liberian International Ship & Corporate Registry (LISCR), the US-based manager of the Liberian Registry, says, "Greece is one of a number of countries in which Liberia is now the fastest-growing fleet. Liberia and Greece share a strong maritime history of co-operation and success dating back to the birth of the Liberian Registry. It is very gratifying to know that, more than sixty years on, Greek owners still value the efficiency, safety and responsiveness of the Liberian flag so highly."

Michalis Pantazopoulos, Managing Director of LISCR Hellas S.A., says, "The Greek Shipping community has appreciated the quality services offered locally including corporate, vessel registration and mortgage, plan approvals, seafarers' certification, and technical and safety assistance."

Liberia has a long-standing relationship with Greece. The first ship registered with Liberia, more than sixty years ago, was the Niarchos controlled tanker World Peace. And the 3,000th registered vessel was also Greek — the Ise Princess, which joined the Liberian fleet in 2009. Piraeus is one of the Liberian Registry's longest-established offices with dedicated staff available to provide assistance whenever it is needed.

Liberia at Posidonia 2012

The Liberian Registry has a great deal to celebrate at Posidonia 2012. Please join us at **Stand #3.221** at the Metropolitan Exhibition Center. We look forward to updating you about the Registry's most recent developments.



Momentous year for the Liberian Ship Registry

2011 was a year of outstanding growth and progress for the Liberian Registry. The Liberian-flag fleet continues its spectacular growth under the management of LISCR. In 2011, 546 new vessels, aggregating 22.5m gross tons, joined the fleet. The average age of these vessels — 215 of which were newbuildings — is five years. Net growth across the fleet in 2011 was 285 vessels totalling 13m gross tons. The Liberian fleet currently stands at an all-time high of more than **3,880 vessels** aggregating in excess of **129m gross tons**, with an average age of twelve years.

Other landmarks in 2011 included Liberia's admittance to the US Coast Guard's QUALSHIP (Quality Shipping for the 21st Century) programme, to which only a small percentage of foreign-flag ships calling at US ports are admitted, based on the excellence of their port state control record. Liberia also features on the White List of all Port State Control Memorandums of Understanding, worldwide.

Moreover, the latest annual Shipping Industry Flag State Performance Table published by the International Chamber of Shipping and the International Shipping Federation awarded Liberia positive performance indicators in every category covered by the report — port state control, ratification of major international maritime treaties, use of compliant recognised organisations, age of fleet, reporting requirements, and attendance at IMO meetings.

The Registry Welcomes Aboard Operations Staff for Piraeus and Tokyo Offices

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IOANNIS SARBANIS

is the most recent addition to the Maritime Operations Department at LISCR Hellas S.A. Ioannis graduated from TEI of Chalkis in 2000, earning his Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering.

Thereafter he attended the University of Newcastle upon Tyne where he broadened his educational horizons, earning his Bachelor's in Marine Engineering and Master's in Naval Architecture. To gain a deeper understanding of the shipping business, Ioannis completed his studies at the City University of London, where he earned his Master's in Shipping Trade and Finance in 2004.

Prior to joining the Registry's Piraeus office, Ioannis worked as a superintendent engineer for the affiliated companies Stamford Navigation Inc. — Newfront Shipping S.A. — Newlead Shipping S.A. As a superintendent engineer, Ioannis was responsible for overseeing the technical maintenance and repairs of the assigned ships and ensuring that the ships were in full compliance with all class, flag state and international regulations.

Ioannis says, "It is an honour to work for the "World's Leading Ship Registry" and to assist clients with meeting the challenging demands of the shipping industry."



TAKESHI OKAMOTO

joined the Registry in 2012 as Director of the LISCR Tokyo office. Takeshi graduated from Kyusyu University Graduate School in 1987 with a Master's degree in Naval Architecture.

Thereafter, he joined ClassNK, one of the world's largest Classification Societies. During his time with ClassNK, Takeshi has served as a technical staff of rulemaking and a field surveyor and auditor for shipbuilding and ship operations in Hiroshima and Piraeus, Greece.

Takeshi says, "I am honored to work for the Liberian Registry. Being part of the LISCR Tokyo staff and promoting the Liberian Registry in Japan is a rewarding challenge."

Michalis Pantazopoulos, Managing Director of LISCR Hellas S.A., says, "Greece is one of the world's largest shipowning nations. It is a very important and growing market for Liberia, with strong historical origins. We are pleased to welcome Ioannis to the Registry's Piraeus office, and we are confident that he has the skills and experience necessary to further develop our team. We are also delighted to welcome Takeshi to the Registry's Tokyo office, and we are certain that his long-standing ties to the Greek shipping community through his work with ClassNK will further strengthen the global service provided by the Liberian Registry."



Pictured: The first ship registered with Liberia, more than sixty years ago, was the Niarcho, controlled tanker World Peace.