Bjørn Jebsen, Chairman of Abojeb and Chief Executive Office of Jebsens, has stressed the importance of an open dialogue within shipmanagement, regardless of company size during his inaugural speech as InterManager’s newly elected President.

Mr. Jebsen was elected unopposed at InterManager AGM in Singapore last month and succeeds Gerardo Borromeo, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Philippine Transmarine Carriers, who steps down after four years at the helm.
Speaking during his first address as President, Mr Jebsen outlined his ambitions for the Association saying:

“I am a strong believer in the overall objective of InterManager, which is to improve the image of shipping, the position of ship managers and to support the careers of seafarers.

“I look forward to encouraging a cohesive dialogue between ship managers, owners and other stakeholders to build a sustainable future for our industry.

“Training is one example of why the industry needs more consolidation and co-operation, as shipping can be a cyclical industry and very fragmented, making it difficult to maintain training at times”.

Mr Jebsen has sat on the Executive Committee of InterManager for the past three years and has always praised the Association’s focus on the human element and ensuring a safe environment for seafarers.

Welcoming Mr Jebsen’s appointment, Capt Kuba Szymanski, Secretary-General of InterManager said:

“We believe that Mr Jebsen will bring a strong and commendable leadership to the Association and continue the values and agendas that InterManager strives to deliver within the global shipping community.”

The new President is supported by three Vice Presidents: Ian MacLean of Hill Dickinson, who is responsible for legal issues; George Hoyt who is responsible for Special Projects; and Capt Ajay Tripathi of MMS Co., who is Treasurer.

“Training is one example of why the industry needs more consolidation and co-operation, as shipping can be a cyclical industry and very fragmented, making it difficult to maintain training at times”

Bjørn Jebsen
InterManager’s International Shipowning and Shipmanagement Summit (ISSS), brought major players from global shipowning, shipmanagement and associated service industries together to debate latest industry developments and international concerns surrounding the notion that today’s shipping industry is not immune to the global terrorist threat – be it physical or across the internet.

The Summit, which was held last month at the Singapore offices of Reed Smith, was chaired by Capt Kuba Szymanski, InterManager Secretary-General, and had an impressive speaker line-up, including:

- James Wilkes, Managing Director, Gray Page
- Esben Poulsson, Chairman, International Chamber of Shipping and President, Singapore Shipping Association
- Bob Maxwell, Managing Director, Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement (Singapore)
- Nicholas Fisher, CEO, Masterbulk Pte
- Martin Baxendale, Managing Director, Resource Law
- Capt Marc Nuytemans, Managing Director, Exmar Shipping
- Bjørn Jebsen, CEO, Jebsens and newly-appointed President of InterManager

Key aspects such as ‘how well do owners and managers know their crew and is enough being done to protect them, the ship and the cargo’ were debated at the Summit, including posing the question: is your ship as safe as it should be in today’s dangerous world?

The importance of how to minimise risk was stressed by several speakers and delegates, with some speakers arguing that international shipping could be a target for global attacks and needs to prepare itself for the event of a casualty that could involve multiple loss of life.

Graeme Temple, Regional Director for the Far East of Braemar (incorporating The Salvage Association) told delegates that: “Often we see casualties needlessly occurring because of human error, this can be managed, if not avoided, by providing the appropriate training before such events occur.”

Delegates also discussed whether crew screening was a necessity or an overreaction in today’s shipping environment.

Asad Salameh, President of World-Link Communications revealed that: “48% of businesses worldwide are actively monitoring and analysing security intelligence.”

Summing up at the close of a successful day, conference Chairman Capt Kuba Szymanski was met with a round of applause saying: “These are very important issues that the industry hesitating in addressing. Here today, we are fighting against any threat, and long may that continue.”

The 3rd annual ISSS conference was organised by Shipping Innovation and InterManager and was generously sponsored by Reed Smith, KVH, MTI Network, The Thome Group, World-Link Communications and Gray Page.
Vessel operating costs are likely to rise in both 2016 and 2017, according to the latest survey by international accountant and shipping consultant Moore Stephens. Repairs and maintenance and spares are the categories which are likely to increase most significantly over the course of the next year.

The survey is based on responses from predominantly shipowners and managers in Europe and Asia. The responses revealed that vessel operating costs are expected to rise by 1.9 percent by the end of 2016 and by 2.5 percent during 2017.

The cost of repairs and maintenance is expected to increase by 1.7 percent in 2016 and by 1.9 percent in 2017, while spending on spares is expected to increase by 1.7 percent by the end of this year and by 1.8 percent in 2017.

The cost of drydocking expenditure is predicted to increase by 1.5 percent and 1.8 percent by the end of 2016 and 2017 respectively. The survey revealed that the spending on crew wages is expected to increase by 1.3 percent by the end of year and rising to 1.8 percent in during the course of 2017.

The predicted overall cost increases for 2016 were highest in the container ship sector, where they averaged 3.3 percent against the overall survey increase of 1.9 percent.

By way of contrast, predicted cost increases for 2016 in the offshore sector were just 0.2 percent. Containerships are also heading for expected cost increases for 2017, at 3.4 percent compared to the overall survey average of 2.5 percent. Tankers featured in second place for both years at 2.5 percent for 2016 and 2.9 percent for 2017.

To read the full report from Moore Stephens, please visit: http://bit.ly/2euJkza
InterManager has extended its global membership and welcomes a Full Member and four Associate Members, including the first Chinese member.

Welcoming the new members, Capt Kuba Szymanski, Secretary-General of InterManager said: “It’s always a pleasure to welcome news members to InterManager, to help reaffirm the importance of shipmanagement, and how working together we can deliver a concise agenda, addressing industry concerns and promoting our achievements.

“As InterManager welcomes its first Chinese member, we hope to open a cohesive dialogue with the Chinese on the importance of its representation in the ship management sector. These five members will be an asset to the Association as their specialisms are fundamental to the running of an interconnected industry.”

Campbell Shipping, which joins InterManager as a full member, was founded in 1950 by naval architect George Campbell and today has a fleet totalling 12 vessels.

“We are proud to be associated with InterManager and its members who are committed to ensuring high standards in ship management. As we expand our Technical base, we look forward to collaborating and exchanging best practices for driving current efficiencies and for meeting new challenges within the industry.” Campbell Shipping Vice-President Capt Rajesh Dhadwal.

InterManager is expanding its Associate Member base, especially with maritime financial services companies, and has welcomes four new companies, including:

MarTrust is a financial services provider, based in the United Kingdom.

“We are looking forward to engaging with InterManager and to learn more about the challenges the industry – and members – faces as well as supporting the association in general.” MarTrust Managing Director, Domenico Carlucci

Miami-based Maritime Payment Solutions provide payment solutions for crew wages and the delivery of cash to vessels.

“Seafarer financial services provider, TheSeafarer Foundation who is based in Australia.

“We look forward to working with InterManager members on developing a sustainable future for the maritime industry.” James McCully, Chief Executive Officer, The Seafarer Foundation.

InterManager has welcomed its first Chinese member, The International Trade Ocean Shipping Supply Company (ITOS), who specialise in maritime supply systems and port services.

“As the first Chinese member of InterManager, we look forward to building links between owners, managers and all related parties, by listening to the voices from the international shipping industry and explore new opportunities within China.” Eva Dai, President of ITOS Supply.

“We are looking forward to the opportunity to engage with other members and discuss the issues and challenges we are currently facing.” Stuart Ostrow, President of Maritime Payment Solutions.
In case you haven’t had the time or opportunity to read my short report on the recent meeting of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) at MEPC 70, the following are the major points of note:

- All conditions of the Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC) were met on 8 September 2016 thanks to the accession of Finland, thus the BWMC will enter into force on 8 September 2017;
- Modifications of the Guidelines regarding the on-board sampling for verification of the sulphur content of fuel oil used on board ships were agreed;
- The North Sea and Baltic Sea were designated as emission control areas for NOx Tier III control, and will be effective from 1 January 2021;
- A global cap of 0.50%m/m sulphur content of fuel with an effective date of 1 January 2020 was adopted;
- A roadmap for a comprehensive IMO strategy on the reduction of GHG emissions from ships was endorsed, and;
- The Jomard Entrance in Papua New Guinea was designated as a Particular Sensitive Sea Area.

The next major IMO meeting will be that of the Maritime Safety Committee during the week commencing 21 November and items to be discussed include:

- Measures to enhance maritime security;
- Goal-based new ship construction standards;
- Provisions for carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on-board vessels engaged on international voyages;
- Navigation, communications, search and rescue (NCSR 3);
- Ship systems and equipment (SSE 3);
- Implementation of IMO instruments (III 3);
- Carriage of cargoes and containers (CCC 3);
- Implementation of the STCW Convention;
- Formal Safety Assessment
- Piracy and armed robbery against ships; and,
- Unsafe mixed migration by sea.

The final important IMO meeting in 2016, to be held during the week commencing 5 December, will be that of the IMO Council at its 117th session. It will be recalled that Council is the Executive body responsible for the conduct of IMO business carried out by the IMO Secretariat during the intervening years when the IMO Assembly does not meet. It will concern itself with budget considerations (both current and future), also resource management and there will be a working group to draft a document entitled ‘Vision Statement and Strategic Directions’ for subsequent approval. In addition, external relations, protection of vital shipping lanes, consideration of reports by IMO’s major committees and the IMO Member State Audit Scheme will also feature on the agenda for the meeting.
TRACE International, founded in 2001, is an anti-bribery standard setting organisation and is recognised globally for its efforts to provide shared-cost compliance solutions for multinational companies and their third party intermediaries. With a mission to advance commercial transparency worldwide, TRACE supports the compliance efforts of hundreds of multinational companies and thousands of intermediaries operating on every continent.

Over the last decade, the anti-bribery landscape has evolved dramatically with aggressive enforcement of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, new anti-bribery laws in multiple countries and coordinated international enforcement efforts. This relatively new reality for global companies, including in the shipping supply chain, has made compliance with anti-bribery laws a top business priority. Many multinational companies, as part of their compliance efforts, now require all of their business partners to complete a due diligence review and to demonstrate a strong commitment to compliance.

Recognising this situation, TRACE is helping small and medium-sized enterprises, including shipping agents, meet growing international compliance requirements by developing TRACEcertification, a comprehensive due diligence review, analysis and approval process based on internationally accepted best practices. Companies and individuals that complete TRACEcertification may share their verified due diligence report with all of their global business partners.

To learn more, visit www.traceinternational.org
Stay safer on Wifi

In today’s world, we want to be “always on” connected to the internet for topics like the latest news or social media posts from friends and family. This “need” to be connected leads us to actively seek out Wifi connections for our devices to connect to.

This feeling will be multiplied for seafarers who have slow limited or expensive access to the internet while at sea for days to weeks at a time.

As soon as you reach port you search for open port wifi or seek out public wifi/internet cafes to get back in touch.

Unfortunately this nature is well known by hackers and so they will use this against you by creating rogue wifi networks, or compromising public wifi hotspots. This allows them to carry out attacks such as Man In The Middle, whereby all your browsing goes via their machine allowing them to capture your usernames, passwords, credit card details and anything else you browse while online. They may also compromise your machine by installing malicious remote access software on your system for accessing it whenever they like in future. So this month’s tip is 10 points on how to stay safer on wifi.

1. Use Secure WIFI where possible

Password protected networks with WPA2 or WPA encryption are the most secure option, compared to completely open networks. If that’s not available, the cellular data connection is far more secure than open public Wi-Fi, so you should use your mobile device as your own hotspot. Consider obtaining a local SIM card to access data services at a better rate if roaming charges cost too much.

2. Be smart about what you connect to

Ask someone who works at the venue for the name of their Wi-Fi network so you can be sure you’re connecting to a legitimate service, and not a malicious hotspot with a “spoofed” name created by hackers in order to trick you. Bearing in mind it is possible to have multiple Wifi networks with the same name, but most cafes or smaller locations only have a single access point, so multiple same names could spell trouble.

3. Take care when paying for Wifi access

Avoid paying for Wi-Fi hotspot access, or pay with an electronic option such as PayPal, Apple Pay, or Google Wallet with limited funds/access to prevent hackers from stealing your credit card information.

4. Look for the lock symbol

The lock symbol indicates the connection to the website is encrypted, which is an important step in safeguarding the privacy and security of the information you send out to the Internet. However, consider that fake sites/domains can also have SSL secured certificates installed.

Tip of the month

Brought to you by

Lee Williamson
Principal IT Consultant, SOFTimpact Ltd
Keep your device up-to-date

Outdated software contains security vulnerabilities that malware and hackers can exploit. Keep the device operating system, web browsers, applications, and security software up to date to minimise your risk of being hacked.

Use a VPN service

A VPN (Virtual Private Network) is a very simple tool for securing the information with encryption - and then forwarding it to a secure server before it goes out to the Internet. Encryption with a VPN means that even if you join a malicious wireless network, the attackers can’t see or modify your private information.

Run a decent Antivirus /malware tool

Whether a PC, laptop or mobile device. Ensure you have a up-to-date antivirus/malware tool installed. For Android a tool such as Sophos Mobile security and for IOS a tool like Lookout.

Turn off file and remote access

Minimise the ways hackers can gain access to the system by turning off features like file sharing and remote access. Use them only when connected to a trusted home or business network.

Disable wifi & automatic connections when not in use

Turn off the feature on the mobile device or laptop that automatically connects to known networks. This reduces the risk of connecting to a malicious network without consent. You should also turn off Bluetooth to avoid those kind of attacks.

Do I really need to do?

When on public Wifi, always ask yourself. Do I really need to pay xx today, potentially exposing my bank account/credit card details? Do I really need to login to xx system to access company data? What would happen if I am on a compromised network and expose xx personal details or company information?
We would like your help as ship managers to complete our annual survey, which is designed to gauge ship managers perspectives on issues that are affecting them the most and what InterManager can do to address concerns and encourage progress.

Answers are received in the strictest of confidence and no individual information will be shared. Please participate, because without your input InterManager cannot perform to its objective of setting industry standards to help ship managers.

Please visit: bit.ly/2ezLdJ1
Thank you.
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Asad Salameh, President, World-Link Communications

Mohan Subbaraman, Managing Director, Resource Law in alliance with Reed Smith

Capt Kuba Szymanski presents Gerardo Borromeo with a barometer

Gerardo Borromeo & Esben Poulsson

Capt Kuba Szymanski presents Gerardo Borromeo with a barometer

InterManager Members attending the AGM in Singapore