



# SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



## Milestone for CML-CMI Database

A significant milestone of 1000 published case summaries has recently been surpassed by the Centre for Maritime Law (CML)-Comité Maritime International (CMI) Database of Judicial Decisions on International Conventions.

Celebrating the achievement, CMI president Christopher Davis particularly highlighted the contributions of CML director Stephen Girvin, database editor Paul Myburgh, the CML research team and CMI standing committee on publications and Website chair Taco van der Valk.

“This is an impressive achievement, as is the overall quality and breadth of coverage of jurisdictions in the database and the number of visits to the CML-CMI Website,” stated Mr Davis.

“I would encourage national associations, both from civilian and common law jurisdictions, to continue submitting case summaries of interest to the database, which is likely to remain one of the CMI’s signature projects for decades to come.”

### **CML CMI Database Statistics as at October 1**

Coverage to date:

- total case digests published – 1004 cases (including all Singapore Convention cases from present day to pre-independence, plus all Malaysian cases)
- 67 jurisdictions – including recently-added Argentina, Finland, Kiribati, Norway, Sweden
- 34 international instruments

User information (since February 1, 2018):

- total users – 27,065
- total number of sessions – 38,350
- total number of pages viewed – 77,754

Top ten users by country:

1. Singapore – 15.56%
2. India – 10.32%
3. United Kingdom – 7.9%
4. United States – 7.39%
5. Hong Kong – 7.18%

### **CML CMI Database of Judicial Decisions on International Conventions**

#### **Introduction**

“Our object was to give to the sea, which is the natural tie between the nations, the benefit of a uniform law, which will be rational, deliberated, equitable in its inception and practical in its text. We have considered that in our work, the shipowner, the merchant, the underwriter, the average adjuster, the banker, the parties directly interested should have the leading part: that the task of the lawyer was to discern what in this maritime community was the general feeling, which, among these divergent interests, is common to all; to discern also which of the various solutions is the best; to contribute to the common work his science and his experience, but that ultimately the lawyer should hold the pen and that the man of practice should dictate the solutions.” (Louis Franck)



6. Philippines – 4.47%
7. Australia – 3.91%
8. Malaysia – 3.73%
9. Netherlands – 3.1%
10. Honduras – 2.81%

Monthly user numbers:

- commencing with less than 500 user views in the month of February 2018, the database was viewed by about 2000 users in the month of September this year

December 2020

