



New Zealand Branch Conference 2023 Auckland, New Zealand

Hilton Hotel, Viaduct Harbour

Thursday, 1 June - Friday 2 June 2023

Taking Soundings

The New Zealand Branch Committee of MLAAANZ warmly invites members and those interested in maritime law to its **2023 Conference and AGM**. The conference will be held at the Hilton Hotel, fittingly nautical in style, and overlooking Auckland's stunning harbour and the hub of the city's port and maritime activity.

The 2023 conference theme looks at how the maritime and shipping community is rising to meet the challenges of the modern and changing world. The response to climate change is now discussed by reference to the urgent need for transformative change this decade. Associate Professor Pierre Jean Bordahandy is travelling from the Pacific to speak to us, having been at the front line of IMO negotiations to reduce GHG emissions and well placed to talk about what is happening – and what needs to happen. Maritime New Zealand's Chief Legal Counsel, Dave Whiteridge will then update the conference on what New Zealand is doing in international matters and the maritime response space.

We will hear from three of our up and coming young lawyers with updates on recent maritime cases and Marcus John from Thomas Miller in Australia has crossed the ditch to speak about insurance and the risks from increased ship sizes that have outpaced port and terminal infrastructure.

The international nature of maritime activity is at the heart of the desire for uniformity in maritime law. Chanté Fourie will be speaking on the IMO's recent Unified Interpretation on the Test for Breaking a Shipowner's Right to Limit Liability, and whether it will achieve its objective of consistent application among member states. Rosalie van Dael (winner of the 2022 Young CMI essay prize), considers the ambiguity in the relationship between admiralty and insolvency, and Paul Myburgh will critique the recently concluded Beijing Convention on the Judicial Sale of Ships.

Health and Safety is critical to every industry and the maritime and port sector has been a particular focus in the last year. The afternoon session is devoted to a panel chaired by Neil Beadle, Special Counsel from Wotton Kearney, addressing a range of current issues from different perspectives. Stu Day, Chief Advisor Regulatory Policy from Maritime New Zealand will speak about the current port safety work, Helen Sadgrove from HSE Global, will be talking about the different views on what safety means and why accidents happen, and what that means for the way health and safety is approached, while Glen Hunter provides an industry perspective on some practical challenges experienced when dealing with salvage and wreck removal.

The maritime community is a strong and collegial one, and the annual conference is an excellent professional networking opportunity and a great occasion for attendees to catch up with friends and colleagues during the icebreaker drinks on Thursday evening and the always enjoyable post-conference dinner.



New Zealand Branch Conference & Annual General Meeting 2023

Thursday, 1 June 2023 – Friday 2 June 2023 – Auckland, New Zealand

PROGRAMME

Thursday 1 June	Little Alice, Auckland Viaduct
6.00 pm – 8.00 pm	Icebreaker at Little Alice with complimentary drinks and nibbles
Friday 2 June	Hilton Hotel Auckland Viaduct
8.30 am	Venue open Tea and coffee available
8.55 am	Welcome Hamish Fletcher, New Zealand Branch Chair
9.00 am	Bloody but Unbowed: Battling at the IMO to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Shipping , Dr Pierre Jean Bordahandy, Associate Professor, University of the South Pacific, Vanuatu
9.45 am	Home and Abroad: MNZ International Update , Dave Whiteridge, Chief Legal Counsel, Maritime New Zealand
10.15 am	Q & A
10.30 am	MORNING TEA
11.00 am	Case Note Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexandra Bennett Solicitor, Duncan Cotterill• Theo Ewart, Solicitor Wotton Kearney• Francesca Dorman, Solicitor, Hesketh Henry
12.00 pm	Big Ships Leave Big Holes : Marcus John, Director Thomas Miller, Australasia
12.30pm	LUNCH
1.30 pm	Breaking the Unbreakable? Recklessness and the Unified Interpretation to the Limitation of Liability Convention , Chanté Fourie, Solicitor, Hesketh Henry
2.00	Admiralty and Insolvency: An Ethics of Ambiguity Rosalie Van Dael, 2022 Young CMI Essay Winner
2.30 pm.	The Beijing Conference on Judicial Sale of Ships – Panacea or a Solution in Search of a Problem Paul Myburgh, Professor of Law at the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) Law School, and an Adjunct Research Professor in the Centre for Maritime Law (CML) at the National University of Singapore (NUS).
3.00 pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3.30 pm	Hot Topic: Health and Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stu Day, Chief Advisor Regulatory Policy (Port Safety Lead)• Helen Sadgrove, Managing Director HSE Global NZ• Glen Hunter, Hunter Marine Surveying Chair, Neil Beadle, Special Counsel, Wotton Kearney
4.45 pm	Law Reform Update/Conference closing
5.00 pm – 5.30 pm	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Hilton Hotel, Auckland Viaduct
7.00 pm	MLAANZ ANNUAL DINNER at Non Solo Pizza, Parnell, Auckland