

# Not only a port, but a maritime hub

## Inaugural Hong Kong Maritime Industry Week set to showcase city's maritime and port prowess.

As the marquee event of the newly established Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board (HKMPB), the inaugural Hong Kong Maritime Industry Week (HKMIW) will be held from November 20 to 27 this year to bring together international and local industry luminaries and practitioners for a myriad of diversified and fun-filled activities ranging from industry briefings, seminars and conferences, corporate functions, maritime-themed sports as well as networking events. HKMIW 2016 will not only celebrate Hong Kong as an International Maritime Centre that provides superb maritime and port facilities and services, but also galvanizes practitioners in the maritime cluster to work towards shared goals with pride and energy.

The HKMPB, which is chaired by Secretary for Transport and Housing, Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, is tasked with setting the direction for the development of Hong Kong's maritime and port services, promoting Hong Kong's maritime industry internationally and fostering local talents to meet growing industry needs.

The establishment of the HKMPB was a fitting complement to the National 13th Five-Year Plan, which pledged support for Hong Kong to consolidate and enhance its position as an international transportation centre. Coupled with the business opportunities brought about by



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**Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung**  
Secretary for Transport and Housing



the Belt and Road Initiative, Professor Cheung believes the local maritime industry is at an advantageous position for further advancement, as Hong Kong has what it takes to become an important maritime services hub for China and the Asia Pacific region.

Professor Cheung said, “Although we are faced with keen competition from other major ports in the region, Hong Kong has a long-established maritime heritage, entrenched unique institutional strengths, and a vibrant maritime services cluster.”

“We are implementing strategies and measures to spur the growth of Hong Kong's maritime cluster and to create a business-friendly environment for the maritime industry on the one hand, and nurture new blood and build up a talent pool on the other. At the same time, we engage the industry actively to step up efforts to

promote Hong Kong as a 'super-connector' in overseas and Mainland markets,” he added.

The HKMIW is part of this multi-pronged approach to make full use of Hong Kong's soft power and build on its existing foundation. The week-long programme will include 28 events from breakfast briefings, forums, seminars, workshops to visits, sharing insight and tackling issues from different perspectives, led by renowned industry leaders.

Professor Cheung encourages maritime and port practitioners to attend these events as there will be plenty of opportunities for networking, thus creating synergy for a strong and integrated maritime cluster. He expects to see a good number of maritime-related trade practitioners, professionals and academics from around the world at HKMIW.

### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

#### The HKMIW Orienteering Race

The Hong Kong Maritime Industry Week will kick off on November 20 with a fun-filled orienteering race. The race will start and finish at the Kai Tak Runway Park. Some 300 members of the public, including families and students, and maritime trade contestants in

eye-catching “Propel Hong Kong” T-shirt will take part in the race, scrambling to reach as many checkpoints in and around the Victoria Harbour as fast as they can in order to win the prizes. Given its vitality, this event will double as the opening ceremony of the HKMIW.

#### Lloyd's List Hong Kong Business Briefing

Organised by Lloyd's List, the publisher of the world's oldest maritime journals since 1734, this event will be held on November 21 in the Hullet House in the former Marine Police Headquarters, a location of maritime significance historically and attractive to heavy weights from the international and local maritime community. The theme of the business briefing is “What's Next? Developing trade pacts and shipping future”. It will cover the most important subjects of topical

interest to the decision makers, such as the implications and opportunities from the Belt and Road Initiative and the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and; influences of finance and shipbuilding on global shipping patterns; as well as expectation of shipping on Hong Kong and other maritime centres around the world. The event will receive an audience of some 100 local and international prominent figures in the maritime and port sectors.

#### Asian Logistics and Maritime Conference (ALMC)

The sixth edition of ALMC will return on November 22-23 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. It will be graced by the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Mr C Y Leung, who will deliver the welcome speech, and the 688th Lord Mayor of City of London, Lord Mountevans,

who will deliver the keynote address. China's Belt and Road Initiative, the 13th Five-Year Plan as well as the latest development in cross-border ecommerce will be among the main topics of the conference. It is expected some 2000 industry players from around the world will take part in the conference.

