

IMLI^e-News

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BIMCO'S CHIEF DOCUMENTARY AFFAIRS OFFICER LECTURES AT IMLI

Mr. Grant Hunter, the Chief Officer for Legal and Contractual Affairs of the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) visited the Institute recently and delivered a lecture to the class of 2014/2015 on the topic: *"BIMCO's Documentary Work"*.



Mr. Grant Hunter (BIMCO's Chief Officer for Legal and Contractual Affairs) lecturing to the students of the IMLI Class of 2014/2015

During his lecture, Mr. Hunter explained that BIMCO is the world's principal organization responsible for the development of maritime contracts and other related forms. He stated that the core objective of BIMCO is to facilitate the commercial operations of its Members by developing standard contracts and clauses, and providing quality information, advice and education. In this regard, it has been estimated that over three quarters of the transactions within the shipping industry is done using BIMCO's approved contracts, clauses and forms. The Organization views its documentary work as a cornerstone of its trade facilitation activities.

One of the primary aims of BIMCO's documentary work is to produce charter parties and other shipping documents and clauses that strike a fair and equitable balance between the parties in a legally sound language, readily understood by all. It is BIMCO's belief that such a consistent

approach to the development of shipping documentation should serve to minimize the likelihood of charter party and other contractual disputes arising in the first instance.

He recalled that BIMCO produces a wide variety of standard forms, which are published in the Forms of Approved Documents (FAD). This annually updated portfolio of documents contains over a hundred separate charter parties, bills of lading and other forms and an extensive range of general purpose and specialized clauses issued, supported or recommended by BIMCO.

Mr. Hunter is BIMCO's Chief Officer for Legal and Contractual Affairs, responsible for overseeing the development, revision and promotion of BIMCO's wide range of internationally used standard contracts and clauses. He has worked for BIMCO since 1997.

His previous careers include five years at sea with the Ben Line and eight years working ashore in the commercial and operations department of P&O Bulk Shipping in London.

Mr. Hunter holds a Master's degree in maritime policy and law from the London School of Economics.

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