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Eight sessions offer international guests the chance to debate keynote topics

The 29th IAPH World Ports Conference will be held under the slogan “smartPORT”. This one-week event will feature eight different sessions examining aspects of intelligent port management and discussing approaches to boosting efficiency and sustainability. Reports on experience in the international port, shipping and logistics sector will be accompanied by scenarios for the future. Among the keynote topics are: Some models for intelligent port management; ship size trends; measures for air pollution control in ports; and where the cruise sector is heading. Each session will conclude with a hosted forum including all the speakers. The audience will be actively involved in what should prove a lively debate on different standpoints. Excursions to the port on the final day of the conference will create a link between theory and practice.

Tuesday, 2 June

Keynote speaker Gerd Leonhard will set the ball rolling **at 11.15**, by taking his audience on a trip to the year 2030. Digitalization has already caused changes in society in recent years. These laid the foundations for the development of today’s cutting-edge smartPORT Hamburg. In his lecture the Swiss futurist will delve into the question of how the world, and the maritime industry especially, will change in the next 15 years. How will digital transformation affect ports and shipping?

After a brief overview on general economic developments and the impact of these on the maritime sector, in the session on ***Transformations and Challenges in the Global Economy***, from 13.15 the development of ship sizes will be explored from six different angles. Theory and practice will come into direct contact **from 15.00** when ship's masters, terminal operators, shipbuilding engineers and academics will meet on the platform for the session on ***Bigger Vessels – Bigger Challenges***.

Wednesday, 3 June

From 09.00 the focus of the second day of the conference will be on the smartPORT. Conference host Hamburg Port Authority (HPA) will not be alone in presenting the ideas behind intelligent port management. Along with HPA chief Jens Meier, port representatives from Australia, Dubai, Spain and Scandinavia will address various solutions for boosting port efficiency. Sustainability and environmental protection play a special role there. Economic growth in tune with nature and mankind – the HPA has nailed these colours to the masthead of its smartPORT concept.

The morning will be spent in discussion of intelligent measures for optimizing cargo and traffic flows in the session on ***smartPORT logistics: Challenges & Solutions*** (from 09.00). The afternoon session (from 13.00) will consider alternative ways of proceeding and just how “green” ports must be. **At 13.15** Monika Breuch-Moritz, President of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency in Hamburg/Rostock, will provide an interesting overview of international environmental standards at sea and observance of these during the session on ***smartPORT energy: Challenges & Solutions***.

Thursday, 4 June

One special aspect of environmental protection in the maritime industry will be examined during the session on ***Clean Air in Ports*** (from 11.40), with Gene Seroka, Executive Director Port of Los Angeles; Christine Loh, Under Secretary for the Environment, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government; Johan Röstin, CEO of Copenhagen Malmö Port AB; and Alexander Porschke, President of Hamburg-based NABU – Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union. They will discuss measures to reduce ship's emissions and suggest areas where the air could be made cleaner. In a parallel session, the IAPH Women's Forum will consider the question ***How Diversity can contribute to smart Thinking?***

The final day of the congress in the CCH will address two additional topic areas. In the morning, **from 09.00** international experts from the cruise industry will focus on its development. How can ports, cities and shipping companies maximize the benefit they derive from cruise shipping? What form of cooperation makes sense in this field? Which distinctive features prove effective for successful cruise ports? What are the repercussions for ports and cruise lines of climate change plus heightened environmental awareness? In the session on **Cruise Shipping** reports of experience from the ports of Busan, Venice and Hamburg will be aired, along with accounts of what cruise shipping lines require of ports and the hinterland. With his presentation “Cruise Ships and Ports: Now and Future Trends” **at 09.15**, Douglas Ward, Author of the BERLITZ Cruise Guide, will be exploring the impact of the wow effect in marketing cruise products.

At much the same time, **from 09.00**, legal experts from Rotterdam, London and Hamburg will be heard during the session on **Ports and Global Trade – Legal Trends and Challenges**. Among the subjects they are to cover will be the factors affecting the location for case hearings under maritime law. In addition, they will be examining the question of just how appropriate insurance policies remain today in the event of accidents in ports. Are ship’s cargoes still adequately insured? Who bears liability in the event of property damage or personal injury in the ports?

The 29th IAPH World Ports Conference is sponsored by

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