

Jost Bergmann

Business Director for Container Ships of DNV GL

In this function Jost is responsible for business development, e.g. planning, coordination and follow-up of activities contributing to the growth of DNVGL's market share with focus on Container Ships globally, supporting customers both on shipping and shipbuilding side as well as colleagues.

Mr. Bergmann is a Naval Architect (MSc) by education and has more than 20 years of work experience in shipbuilding and shipping.

For six years Jost worked with a German shipyard in different positions- first in design and later in production. From this time he has experience with design and construction of container vessels of different size between 1.000 and 3.800 TEU.

In 1996 Jost joined DNV. After an introduction phase working as a surveyor he relocated to DNV's head office in Oslo and worked as approval engineer with focus on structural approval of container ships. In 1999 Mr. Bergmann moved back to DNV Hamburg working as technical advisor and later as business development manager mainly dealing with German container customers.

Since 2010 Jost was working as DNV's Business director for container ships and was confirmed in this position in 2013 after the DNV GL merger.

Lutz Birke

Head of Corporate Management and Public Affairs, Hamburg Port Authority

Lutz M. Birke (42) earned his graduate degree in business administration with a special emphasis on controlling and marketing from the University of the Federal Armed Forces Hamburg. During his military career he was deployed as a company commander and as a security and information officer in charge of public relations at the German armed forces.

His civil career started in 2005 with the Hamburg state parliament where he worked as an advisor to the divisions in charge of urban development, transport and environment. In 2007 he first transferred to the state ministry of urban development and environment, and in 2008 he became head of the state minister's office of the state ministry of economic and labour affairs.

Since 1 September 2010, Lutz M. Birke has worked for the Hamburg Port Authority. First he has been in charge for corporate and port strategy, since 1 May 2015, Lutz M. Birke has been in charge of corporate management and public affairs at the Hamburg Port Authority.

Max Boodie

Moderator 29th IAPH World Ports Conference

Max Boodie started his career in 1990 at a Dutch consultancy where in 1995 he set up the procurement & supply division. In 1997 he became a partner. Until 2005 he was actively involved in numerous procurement and logistics projects in the private and public sector. In 2005 he started a joint venture with DPA Group N.V., a company listed on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, which specialised in procurement and supply chain issues relating to staffing, consulting and recruitment.

In 2010 Max sold his share in the joint venture to DPA Group N.V. and became a member of the two-member executive board. He was asked to manage a major takeover. When the takeover was finalised in 2011, he left DPA. Since 2012 Max Boodie has been busy investing in technology-driven start-ups.

In 2013 Max Boodie won everyone over when he moderated the “International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) Africa/Europe Regional Meeting” in Amsterdam.

Max Boodie is the author of several books about procurement and supply chain management. His most recent book (2014) is about temporary employment and staffing in the Netherlands from a sourcing perspective.

He also is a part-time PhD student at the University of Groningen, where he researches the influence of incentives on the behaviour of procurement professionals and their internal customers.

Max is married, the father of two children – a 6-year-old boy and a 9-year-old girl - and a passionate amateur racing driver of modern and classic racing cars.

Patrick Bol

Director Global Operations DP World Head Office Dubai

Patrick Bol is a container terminal executive with over 25 years of experience in the port business, from ship deck to executive management. He managed terminal operations and led the business units in Rotterdam, Indonesia, Djibouti, Busan, Saigon and now holds the position of Director Global Operations of DP World's head office. Passionate about innovation and conceptual terminal design, automation and improving terminal logistics by applying the latest technology, he takes great pride in optimising logistical processes and achieving the impossible in the most challenging environments, from Africa to Europe, building and motivating multi-cultural teams that can achieve the highest productivity levels in a cost efficient manner. Solving complex operational challenges by applying LEAN six sigma principles is one of his priorities.

Monika Breuch-Moritz

President of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency in Hamburg and Rostock

Monika Breuch-Moritz was born in Andernach, Germany, in 1953. From 1971 to 1976 she studied meteorology at the University of Bonn. After graduating she worked with the German Meteorological Service in the Agrometeorological Advisory and Research Office Weihenstephan in Freising. In 1989, she joined the Federal Ministry of Transport, weather service division. She was a member of the German delegation to the Second World Climate Conference and IPCC. In 1999 she assumed the role of head of Maritime Environmental Protection, Waterways Police, Port State Control and Sea Pilotage. In 2007 she was made head of Climate and Environmental Policy in Maritime Shipping focusing on the further development of environmental regulations in shipping.

In October 2008 she was named president of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency in Hamburg and Rostock. In this position she is a member of different scientific and technical advisory boards.

Capt. Salvatore Cafiero

Environmental Manager & Training Officer at MSC P/Sorrento - Italy

Captain Salvatore Cafiero grew up in a seaman's family. He was educated at the "Nino Bixio" Nautical Institute in Piano di Sorrento, where he graduated in 1980. Salvatore immediately started his life at sea as a deck boy under his father's command. After sailing in all ranks, he was promoted to master of a chemical tanker in 1988. In 1997 he started sailing with MSC on the MSC MARIA LAURA, and proudly continued his career on last-generation container vessels. He went ashore in 2007 to further his career in training, safety and the environment. Today Captain Salvatore Cafiero is a training officer and environmental manager. He is also in charge of risk assessment of huge vessels of the MSC OSCAR and MSC LONDON classes and responsible for the MSC training site, using a full mission bridge/eng simulator.

CHA Min-sik

Vice President of Busan Port Authority

Mr CHA Min-sik is the vice president of Busan Port Authority (BPA) in South Korea, a position he has held since 2012. As the vice president Mr CHA is responsible for the overall business plan, management, budget and finances of BPA. He aims to develop Busan Port's role as a transshipment hub of the north-east Asian region through global planning and strategic vision by fulfilling those responsibilities.

Since he started his career in 1982 at Sammi shipping company, he has gained shipping and port-related experiences and knowledge by working in the shipping and port industry for more than 30 years.

He worked at various shipping companies (Sammi, Pumyang, Samsun, Seoul line) from 1982 to 2000 and acquired business and administrative skills through hands-on experience.

Since he joined BPA in 2004, he has worked as a director of the teams on port planning and management. With the wealth of experience and professional knowledge he gained during the period, he was promoted to vice president in charge of business & management tasks of BPA.

Mr CHA graduated from Seoul National University where he earned his BA and MA degrees in law. He also obtained his PhD in law from Seoul National University in 2011 by writing a thesis on the duties of nations and state-owned companies.

Wim Elfrink

Executive Vice President, Industry Solutions and Chief Globalisation Officer at Cisco

Wim Elfrink is Cisco's Executive Vice President for Industry Solutions and Chief Globalisation Officer. In this role he is responsible for three global functions at Cisco: the Industry Solutions Group, the Emerging Countries Initiatives, and the company's globalisation strategy. Elfrink is an Executive Officer and sits on Cisco's Operating Committee.

Elfrink also is recognized as Cisco's Corporate Entrepreneur in Residence, responsible for leading company-wide efforts in support of the "Internet of Everything" (IoE) and the "Internet of Things" (IoT). A core focus of Elfrink's global charter is to identify significant technology opportunities for city, country and business transformation.

Enak Ferlemann

Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development

José García de la Guia

Director of Information Technologies Valencia Port Authority

Jose García de la Guia has been working in the IT sector at the port of Valencia for 20 years.

Since 2007 he's been working for the Valencia Port Authority in Spain, in the last year as the IT Manager and before that as the port community system manager.

Before that Mr Garcia worked for the Valenciaport Foundation from 2004 – 2007, where he managed the creation process of the port community system, valenciaporpcs.net, and several research projects in the field of IT applied to logistics.

In the period from 1998 – 2004 Mr. Garcia worked for Infoport, an IT services company, where he held a number of positions including project manager, technical director and general manager.

Mr García earned his bachelor's degree in telecommunications engineering from the Valencia Polytechnic University in Spain. He holds an MBA from INEDE Business School – Valencia Catholic University in Spain.

Grant Gilfillan

IAPH President & Chief Executive Officer/Director, Port Authority of New South
Wales, Australia

PD Dr Christian Growitsch

Director of the Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI)

Christian Growitsch has held the position of managing director of the Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI) since September 2014. Before that he served as a director of applied research and member of the management board of the Institute of Energy Economics at the University of Cologne, where he taught as an adjunct professor [Privatdozent] of economics.

After studying business administration, economics and social sciences in Hamburg and Lüneburg, Mr Growitsch earned his doctorate at the University of Lüneburg. In May 2010 he earned his German post-doc degree [Habilitation] at the University of Halle-Wittenberg. From 2007 to 2010 he was head of the department of energy markets and energy regulation at the Scientific Institute for Infrastructure and Communication Services in Bad Honnef.

His economic research and politico-economic consulting currently focus on empirical industrial organisation.

Dr Christoph Hasche

Honorary Secretary General and Vice Chairman of the German Maritime Arbitration Association

As a managing partner of one of the leading German shipping law firms, Fleet Hamburg LLP, Dr Christoph Hasche specialises in assisting clients from the maritime industry in their day-to-day business, conducting court proceedings and maritime arbitrations. He also accepts appointments as arbitrator and maritime mediator.

Christoph has lectured at the summer school of the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea, the Bucerius Law School and the University of Hamburg. Furthermore, Christoph is a member of the International Bar Association, the German Association of International Maritime Law and the London Maritime Arbitrators' Association. He is listed on the panel of arbitrators of the China Maritime Arbitration Commission (CMAC). In terms of pro bono work, Christoph is a presiding honorary judge at the Hamburg Disciplinary Court for the legal profession.

Peter Hinchliffe OBE

Secretary General International Chamber of Shipping

The membership of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) comprises the key national shipowners' associations from around the world and represents 80% of the world's merchant tonnage. The principal role of ICS is to coordinate the representation of the global shipping industry at the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization, and at other intergovernmental forums which impact on the interests, well-being and commercial viability of international shipping.

Peter made a very early decision to go to sea and enjoyed a first career in the British Royal Navy, that included over 20 years at sea and 5 years in seagoing command. As well as benefitting from naval professional training he also gained a civilian BSc (Hons) in management. He joined ICS in 2001 and for several years led ICS representation on maritime safety, security and environmental issues at the IMO and in other forums. He was appointed Secretary General of ICS in July 2010 and today focuses on enabling the ICS team to optimise its effectiveness on behalf of international shipping through lobbying, representation and intervention.

Peter and Sue live close to the coast in Devon and with two children in their 20s now have some time to enjoy this idyllic location, and other parts of the world, through a shared enjoyment of sailing and trekking.

Minister Frank Horch

Ministry of Economy, Transport and Innovation in Hamburg

Dipl.-Ing. Robert Howe

Managing Director Bremenports GmbH & Co. KG

Robert Howe was born in 1962. He graduated with a master of science in civil engineering from TU Braunschweig (the Brunswick Institute of Technology) in Germany in 1992.

Mr Howe started his career with Philip Holzmann AG, a German building and construction company based in Hanover, where he worked for around 10 years. In 2002 he changed employment to Ed. Züblin AG, a German building and construction company with offices in Bremen and Hamburg.

Mr Howe joined bremenports Ltd., the publicly owned ports management company of the state of Bremen, as Managing Director in 2012.

Marcus John

Director Thomas Miller (Australasia) Pty Ltd

Henning Kinkhorst

Managing Director at HPC Hamburg Port Consulting GmbH

Henning Kinkhorst is Managing Director at HPC Hamburg Port Consulting GmbH which is one of the leading management consultant companies in the worldwide port and transport sector. Prior to joining HPC in 2014 Henning has gained over 15 years industry experience in various Senior Management positions with Germanischer Lloyd SE and A.P.Moeller / Maersk Group.

Throughout his professional career in shipping and logistics, he has worked on many projects globally i.e. optimizing of network deployments, market positioning in Asia/Pacific Region and fleet development strategy for next generation vessels including economic validation and roll out.

Complementing his vast practical experience Henning holds a MSc in Industrial Engineering and international Management.

Dr Geraldine Knatz

Professor of the Practice of Engineering and Policy University of Southern California
& Retired Executive Director, Port of Los Angeles

Geraldine Knatz is Professor of the Practice of Policy and Engineering, a joint appointment between the University of Southern California Price School of Public Policy and the Sonny Astani Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering.

She served as the executive director of the Port of Los Angeles from 2006 to January 2014. She was the first woman to serve in this role and made a significant impact through the creation and implementation of the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan, an aggressive plan that reduced air emissions by combined port operations of over 70 per cent over five years which is recognised around the world for its innovation and success.

She was also the managing director of the Port of Long Beach where she also led a number of environmental initiatives, including the Green Port Policy and Truck Trip Reduction Program. She is past president of the American Association of Port Authorities and past president of the International Association of Ports and Harbors. She serves as Gov. Brown's appointee on the Ocean Protection Council. She has received numerous awards, including Outstanding Women in Transportation (Journal of Commerce, 2007), Woman Executive of the Year (Los Angeles Business Journal, 2007), Compass Award (Women's Leadership Exchange, 2008), honorary PhD, Maine Maritime Academy (2009), and the Peter Benchley Ocean Award (Blue Frontier Campaign, 2012).

In 2014, she was named a member of the National Academy of Engineering in recognition of her international leadership in the engineering and development of environmentally clean urban seaports.

Benjamin Lai

Managing Director DaChan Bay Terminal, Modern Terminals Limited

Benjamin Lai joined Modern Terminals as a marketing manager in 2002. He became general manager operations in July 2005 and general manager Hong Kong in June 2009. In May 2010 he was promoted to managing director Hong Kong, overseeing the Hong Kong business unit. Benjamin took over the managing director position at Da Chan Bay Terminal One in May 2012. In 2013 Da Chan Bay passed the 1-million-TEU milestone. In 2014 Da Chan Bay's container throughput went up 26% to 1.26 million TEU.

Prior to joining Modern Terminals, Benjamin was director business development of New World CyberBase, the IT arm of the New World Group. Benjamin also spent 6 years working in both the United States and Canada for various IT companies in their business development divisions. Benjamin holds a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in the United States and an executive MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Bo Larsen

Vice President for Port Engagement & European Executive Partner Members in Europe, CLIA

Bo has spent much of his career working within travel, including 20 years with the airline industry followed by several years with Cruise Baltic and Cruise Copenhagen Network. He managed both associations and established Cruise Baltic as an internationally recognised brand which won a number of prestigious awards.

In 2014 Bo became Global Director of Port Engagement and Business Development of Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), the world's largest cruise industry association with representation in North America and South America, Europe, Asia and Australasia. In January 2015 Bo became CLIA's vice president of Port Engagement & European Executive Partner Members in Europe.

He has extensive knowledge of the global port and destination sector and plays a key role in helping to develop CLIA's strategic programme of benefits and events for member partners. Bo also manages CLIA's global and European port & destination committees.

He is a regular contributor to industry events and can also be seen moderating on various panels.

Bo Larsen is a business administration graduate from AVT Business School as well as a Stanford Executive Program graduate.

Gerd Leonhard

Futurist, Author, CEO The Futures Agency

Gerd Leonhard is a Futurist, Author, and the CEO of The Futures Agency. He is considered a thought leader and global influencer in media/content, technology, marketing, communications, telecom, and culture, consulting many leading global companies. Co-author of the influential book 'The Future of Music' (2005, Berklee Press), author of 'Music2.0' (2008), 'The End of Control' (2007) and 'The Future of Content' (2011), Gerd's background is in music. In 1985 he won the Quincy Jones Award and subsequently graduated from Boston's Berklee College of Music (1987). Since 2002, following a decade as digital media entrepreneur and start-up CEO, Gerd speaks at conferences and seminars around the globe on the Future of Media, Technology, Business, Advertising, Telecom, Communications, Big Data, Culture, and Sustainability.

Gerd's diverse client list includes Nokia, Google, Sony-BMG, Telkom Indonesia, Siemens, Kuoni, RTL, ITV, the BBC, France Telecom/Orange, Deutsche Telekom, Sanoma, The Guardian, Sony Ericsson, The Financial Times, DDB, Omnicom, the European Commission, Nokia Siemens Networks and many others.

A strategic advisor and a fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts (London), Gerd delivers hard-hitting and provocative keynotes, presentations and think tanks with an inspiring, motivational style. With engagements in 43 countries since 2003, Gerd has addressed over 250'000 professionals, and is considered a key influencer. An internationally recognized speaker, Gerd lives in Basel, Switzerland, and on airplanes.

Marco Lippuner

Senior Vice President Infrastructure & Industry Sales, Siemens AG, Energy Management Division

Marco Lippuner has been with Siemens for more than 24 years, holding several managing positions all over the world. In 2015 he was appointed Senior Vice President Infrastructure & Industry Sales, where he is responsible for driving growth in markets for the Energy Management Division. Prior he managed projects in the corporate M&A department, served as President and CEO in a joint venture in China (2006/07) and CEO in South Africa from 2009 to 2013.

Marco Lippuner is 49 years old, married and has two daughters, 15 and 17 years old.

Christine Loh

Under Secretary for the Environment, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Government

Ms Christine Loh was the Chief Executive Officer of the non-profit public policy think tank Civic Exchange prior to joining the HKSAR Government in September 2012. Prior to founding Civic Exchange in 2000, Ms Loh had spent nearly a decade as a politician and member of the Legislative Council (1992-97 and 1998-2000).

Before joining the Legislative Council, Ms Loh held senior regional positions in commodities trading, as well as in project negotiation. Having been very active in public affairs since 1980, she had founded or served on boards of a wide range of non-governmental organisations in Hong Kong and overseas concerning a variety of issues including environmental protection, urban planning and design, and equal opportunity. Ms Loh is a lawyer by training.

Jens Meier

Chairman of the Management Board Hamburg Port Authority

After completing his studies in computer science and the supplementary subject of economics at the University of Hamburg, Jens Meier (48) started his professional career at Software Design & Management AG (Ernst & Young group). As a member of the management board, he was in charge of the Hamburg and Hanover branch offices from 1997 onwards. His customers included HHLA, the VW group, Hypovereinsbank, Münchener Rück, Start Amadeus and the Otto group.

In 2000, he was appointed divisional manager of Systematics AG (later EDS). His responsibilities included consulting and software development. From July 2002 onwards, Jens Meier was CEO of tts Holding GmbH & Co. KG where he was in charge of IT, finances and international logistics. Upon the sale of the tts group to Fiege in 2006, he was appointed to the board of directors of Fiege Holding Stiftung & Co. KG, Greven.

Since April 1st, 2008 Jens Meier has been serving as CEO of the Hamburg Port Authority (HPA).

Mr Meier is a founding member of the Hamburger Informatik Forums e.V. board of directors. The association promotes the co-operation between the University of Hamburg and business. He is a member of the alumni of the Young Business People at the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce and senator of the Federal Association for Economic Development and Foreign Trade where he represents the logistics industry. Furthermore in 2006 the senate of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg appointed him to the board of trustees of the Logistics Initiative Hamburg. Jens Meier was born in Hamburg. He is married with 3 children.

Olaf Merk

Administrator Ports and Shipping, International Transport Forum (ITF) at OECD

Olaf Merk is Administrator Ports and Shipping at the International Transport Forum (ITF) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an international organisation in Paris. As such, he directed studies on ports and maritime transport. Olaf Merk is the author of various OECD books including “The Impact of Mega-Ships” (release end May 2015) and “The Competitiveness of Global Port Cities” (2014). While managing the OECD Port-Cities Programme, he directed more than a dozen studies on port cities, including on Hamburg, Hong Kong and Shanghai. He has authored various port-related articles in academic and professional journals. He also is an assistant professor at the Institute for Political Science (Sciences Po) in Paris, lecturing on the governance of port cities. Prior to the OECD he worked for the Dutch Ministry of Finance. He holds a master’s degree in political science from the University of Amsterdam.

Dato' Capt. David Padman

General Manager, Port Klang Authority

Y. Bhg. Dato' Capt. David Padman was appointed General Manager of Port Klang Authority, Malaysia, in July 2011. He has been chairman of the port health, safety and environment committee Port Klang since 1998, chairman of the pilotage board for Port Klang Authority, chairman of the working committee, Port Klang development master plan 2010 – 2030 and he has also served as chief information officer (CIO) of Port Klang Authority. He obtained the master mariner's qualification (foreign-going) from RMIT Melbourne in 1984 and his unrestricted pilot's licence in 1992. In 1993 he obtained a diploma in port management from the University of New Orleans, USA.

Michael Pal

Principal Transport Analyst for Fremantle Ports, Australia

Michael's key projects in recent years have been the design, development and introduction of the congestion management system, operational design of the Port's new truck facility, project management of the Port Container Movement Study and a study on successful short-haul intermodal operations.

Previous roles have included 12 years with TNT in Europe, Sydney & Shanghai where he ran the lead logistics for the Ford Motor Company's largest European manufacturing facility at Saarlouis, Germany. Michael also developed inbound logistics concepts (since implemented) for China's Shanghai Volkswagen and Ford Turkey.

On returning to Australia in 2003, he has had roles as state manager operations for Boral and Mayne and assisted the navy at its ANZAC Ships System Program Office (SPO) in Rockingham in facilitating the finalisation of the ANZAC Integrated Materiel Services Alliance and identifying & actioning "critical" freight.

Roberto Perocchio

Managing Director of Venezia Terminal Passeggeri S.p.A.

Roberto Perocchio was born in Aschaffenburg (Germany) on 22 September 1961. After obtaining his legal degree, he became a member of the executive council of the Italian Marine Industry Association (1990 – 2008).

In 1991 he was appointed to the boating facilities development board of ICOMIA (International Council of Marine Industries Associations with headquarters in London). In September 2009 he was appointed chairman of ICOMIA Marinas Group. He assisted in organising the International Marina Conference that focused on marina management. From 2010 to 2011 he held the position of director EU relations/Adriatic Sea at MEDCRUISE (The Association of the Mediterranean Cruise Ports).

From 2005 to 2012 he was a member of the board of directors of V.Y.S.A. (Venice Yacht & Ships Assistance). In 2013 he was appointed president.

In 2011 he was named president of VTP Engineering S.r.l., an organisation offering engineering solutions to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of port processes. In the same year he became a member of the board of directors of Catania Cruise Terminal S.r.l. He has served as national vice president of Federturismo – Confindustria since 2013.

Jörg Pollmann

Harbour Master of the Port of Hamburg

Captain Jörg Pollmann holds an overseas master mariner's license and a diploma in nautical science. He spent 12 years at sea on board general cargo and container ships and has extensive experience in port and terminal management. In 1994 he joined the Hamburg Port Authority and was appointed Harbour Master.

Alexander Porschke

President of NABU Hamburg (Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union)

Alexander Porschke, born on 22 February 1954, has served as president of the NABU (Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union) office in Hamburg since 2010. In Hamburg NABU, which is one of Germany's biggest environmental NGOs (500 000 members), has 21 000 members.

From 1997 to 2001 Alexander Porschke was Hamburg's minister for the environment and from 2004 to 2007 he worked as a freelance consultant and trainer in South America (Peru, Ecuador and Guatemala) for a variety of international organisations.

Between 1986 and 1993 Alexander Porschke held various positions at the Hamburg Ministry of the Environment. From 1993 to 1997 he was member of the Hamburg Parliament, as chief whip of GAL Hamburg (Green Alternative List), environmental spokesman and spokesman for international relations, economic affairs, port and airport.

Johan Röstin

CEO of Copenhagen Malmö Port AB

After completing his business and sociology studies at the University of Lund in 1990, Johan Röstin worked at ACE Air Cargo Express from 1990 to 1995. He was a branch manager at Air Express International in Gothenburg from 1995 to 1998 and switched to SAS Cargo Sweden in 1998 where he first was a regional manager. He soon was promoted to marketing and sales director and in 2002 was made sales director for Scandinavia. From 2004 to 2009 Mr Röstin worked with Schenker, first as a managing director of Schenker International AB and member of the management team of Schenker Sweden and after that as a division director Air and Ocean Sweden and Scandinavia. Mr Röstin assumed the role of CEO of Copenhagen Malmö Port AB in 2009.

Mr Röstin is or was a board member of ACH AB (Air freight), the Celit University logistics programme at Lund University, MFT AB (air freight handling) and Jetpak AB. He is the vice president of the Swedish Ports Association.

Mr Röstin is a Swedish citizen. He is 52 years old, married to Annika and they have two children.

Dr Maria Carolina Romero

Associate Professor at the World Maritime University in Sweden

Dr Maria Carolina Romero Lares is an associate professor at the World Maritime University in Sweden and has been involved in the maritime sector for over 15 years. For her doctoral dissertation titled “Liability for Oil Pollution Damage from Tanker Accidents”, originally written in German at the Leibniz University of Hanover, she was awarded a Cum Laude.

She was the first woman to direct the International Office of the Venezuelan Maritime Administration and the first one promoted to associate professor at WMU, where she was chairlady of the 2014 Maritime Women, Global Leadership Conference held in co-operation with the International Maritime Organization in Malmo, Sweden. She has given conferences and professional training sessions in the cities of Athens, Barcelona, Bogota, Caracas, Cartagena, New York, Split and Wuerzburg. As an advocate for women's rights in the maritime and port sectors, she has publications on the topic.

Gun Rudeberg

Legal Counsel and Head of Environmental Affairs at Ports of Stockholm

Ms Rudeberg joined Ports of Stockholm in 1995 and is a member of the management board. She is in charge of legal matters concerning Ports of Stockholm and strategic environmental issues.

Ms Rudeberg has been a member of the European Sea Ports Organisation's Sustainable Development Committee since July 2000. From 2009 to 2014 she was the chair of the Committee.

She has been a member and served as chair of the Swedish Ports Environmental Committee since July 1995.

From 1995 to 2007 Ms Rudeberg was a member of the Environmental Working Group of the Baltic Ports Organization (BPO). In 2010 she rejoined the Environmental Working Group. As a representative from BPO she is a member of the European Sustainable Shipping Forum.

Gun Rudeberg holds a Master of Law from the University of Lund, Sweden.

Olaf Scholz

First Mayor of the City of Hamburg

Gene Seroka

Executive Director Port of Los Angeles

As Executive Director of the busiest container port in North America, Gene Seroka is responsible for managing a \$ 939 million budget, leading a team of more than 900 employees, advancing major capital projects, growing cargo volumes, and promoting innovative, sustainable practices that improve Southern California's economy and quality of life. His duties involve interacting with a wide range of stakeholders, including port customers worldwide, supply chain partners, labour, community members, and elected and appointed officials at all levels.

An industry-known leader, Seroka brings more than 26 years of experience in shipping, global logistics and executive management to the port. He began his career in the maritime industry as a sales support representative and over the course of two decades advanced to several executive-level positions, with overseas assignments in Shanghai, Jakarta, Singapore, and Dubai.

An alumnus of the University of New Orleans, where he earned a bachelor's degree in marketing and a master's degree in business administration, Seroka is recognised for his ability to facilitate the development of solutions to challenging issues. He is a prominent supporter of collaboration and promotes teamwork, participation and partnerships to advance solutions to commercial, port terminal, intermodal, land transportation and labour issues throughout the region.

Michael Shewchuk

Legal Officer, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, United Nations

Michael Shewchuk is a Legal Officer with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs at the United Nations. He has worked in a number of capacities to support the work of the division and currently serves as secretary or legal officer to three Subcommissions of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

Mr Shewchuk previously worked as a Legal Officer for the Oceans and Environmental Law Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada. He practiced international law in Calgary, Canada for over ten years and he has been a member of the Bar of the Province of Alberta since 1992.

Mr Shewchuk received a Bachelor of Arts with Specialisation from the University of Alberta, Canada (1988) and a Bachelor of Laws from Queens University, Canada (1991). He studied international law and international affairs at New York University and at the Hague Academy of International Law. He also taught international law for several years at New York University.

Michael Ungerer

President AIDA Cruises

Michael Ungerer has been President of AIDA Cruises since July 2012. From July 2004 to June 2012, he served as AIDA Cruises' Senior Vice President Operations, responsible for marine operations, new builds, guest services, shoreside operations, entertainment and purchasing. From February 1997 to June 2004, he was Vice President of Guest Services, and played an important role in product development, as well as safeguarding and further developing AIDA Cruises' high quality standards.

Prior to joining AIDA Cruises, Ungerer held various positions in the marine tourism and hotel business sectors, having held management roles with Norwegian Cruise Line and the Sonesta and Ritz-Carlton hotel chains.

He studied Business Management in Innsbruck and at the London Business School as well as Hotel & Tourism Management at Klessheim Castle near Salzburg.

In March 2013, Michael Ungerer was appointed Chairman of CLIA Germany. The Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) is the world's largest cruise industry trade association.

Frans van Zoelen

CLO of Havenbedrijf Rotterdam N.V. (Port of Rotterdam Authority)

Frans van Zoelen is a Legal Counselor to the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) (www.iaphworldports.org). He also chairs the IAPH Legal Committee and is a member of the Legal Advisory Committee of the European Seaport Organisation (ESPO) (www.espo.be). In the Netherlands he chairs the Dutch Legal Network for Shipping and Transport (www.dlnst.nl) and is a member of the Board of the Dutch Association for Maritime and Transport Law (www.nvzv.nl).

Frans van Zoelen holds a master's degree in civil and public law from Erasmus University Rotterdam and in addition specialises in real estate law, company law, competition law and maritime law. With a master's degree in public administration from the Nederlandse School voor Openbaar Bestuur, Frans van Zoelen has also developed an expertise and strong interest in how the public and private sector interface - a focus essential for navigating complex port and industrial environments.

Frans van Zoelen lives in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, together with his wife and son.

Douglas Ward

Author BERLITZ Cruise Guide

Douglas Ward has been sailing aboard ocean-going cruise ships since 1965. Since 1985 he has been the author of the annual BERLITZ Cruising and Cruise Ships – the world's most authoritative cruise guidebook – and BERLITZ River Cruising in Europe, first published in 2014.

His travels have taken him to over 1.800 ports around the world, and he spent a total of 17 years working at sea (partly as shore excursion manager for a cruise company). "I've learned about the cruise industry (and ports around the world) from the inside out," says Ward who studied the construction and operation of cruise ships.

A veteran of over 6.060 days at sea and more than 1.060 cruises (including 158 transatlantic crossings), he is considered the world's foremost independent authority on cruising and cruise ships and an industry icon.

He is typically "at sea" or in cruise industry meetings, gives speeches and presentations for up to 200 days each year and continually promotes better standards within the industry, including facilities for disabled passengers.

Volker Worthmann

Director Transport & Logistics, Lufthansa Industry Solutions

Volker Worthmann was born (1965) and raised in Hamburg.

After finishing school in 1984 and doing military service, he studied industrial engineering, in which he holds a degree.

Volker Worthmann started his business career as an IT consultant at Partner Consult in 1996 and switched to Lufthansa Systems in 1997. Starting out as a business analyst, he was part of a major software development project developing a revenue accounting software for Lufthansa German Airlines. This software was implemented in 2000 and soon became an industry standard solution named "Sirax".

As a project and programme manager Volker Worthmann headed international teams who implemented software projects for several new airline customers. During this period he lived in the United States of America for three years (2006-2009). In 2009 Volker Worthmann was promoted to director. He was responsible for the production, worldwide implementation and maintenance of Sirax software.

Volker Worthmann changed position within Lufthansa Systems in 2011 to take over the role of a Director Transport & Logistics, which is the position he is currently holding. He has been managing major software development projects as well as standard software implementations for companies in the maritime industry, in particular in Hamburg. Volker Worthmann is especially interested in developing processes and IT solutions that help improve the efficiency of operations. In many cases IT is the key to it.

Dr Phanthian Zuesongdham

Innovation and Process Management Hamburg Port Authority

Dr Phanthian Zuesongdham holds a BA in international transport management and an MBA in finance and logistics. Before she joined the HPA, she worked with different international organisations such as UNESCAP (water transport division), Lufthansa Cargo AG and Deutsche BP AG as well as at Hamburg University of Technology and Jacobs University in Bremen. At both universities she coordinated many European projects funded by different programmes. In 2010 she obtained her PhD in process management and maritime logistics.

She joined the Hamburg Port Authority (HPA) in Jan 2010, where she works in the management office of innovation - process management of the services business unit. As e-Maritime coordinator of the HPA she also is active in many working groups concerned with e-Maritime, ICT and innovation-related initiatives on a national, European and international level. She specialises in process management, enterprise architecture, project cargo, risk management, intermodal logistics (especially sea and air transports) and port management. She has been a regular guest lecturer at diverse universities since 2008.