

Athens, March 5, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

"2015 CAPITAL LINK GREEK SHIPPING LEADERSHIP AWARD"

**In the context of the 6th Annual Greek Shipping Forum
The "2015 Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award" was presented to
Mr. Lambros Varnavides,
Vice Chairman of the Baltic Exchange, Trustee of the Lloyds Register Foundation
Managing Director and Global Head of Shipping RBS 1998 to 2014**

On **Tuesday, February 24, 2015**, during the Luncheon of the **Capital Link's 6th Annual Greek Shipping Forum**, the **"2015 Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award"** was presented to **Mr. Lambros Varnavides, Vice Chairman of the Baltic Exchange, Trustee of the Lloyds Register Foundation, Managing Director and Global Head of Shipping RBS 1998 to 2014** in recognition of his unique and extensive contribution to Shipping and Greece and for his overall outstanding service to the shipping industry.

The **"Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award"** is presented annually to a patriarch of the Greek Shipping Community who has gained the respect and the appreciation of the international shipping industry and who is also recognized for his wisdom, philanthropy and contribution to society. The Award aims to recognize the patriarchs of Greek Shipping, those pioneers with a significant contribution to elevating Greek Shipping to its leadership position globally. The 2013 honoree was **Captain Panagiotis Tsakos**, the 2014 honoree was **Mr. Pericles Panagopoulos**.

The Award Ceremony took place during the Official Luncheon of the **Capital Link's 6th Annual Greek Shipping Forum** at the Hilton Hotel in Athens, Greece. **More than 450 high level participants attended the luncheon representing the elite of the financial and investment communities, as well business and government leaders from the United States, Greece and London.**

Mr. Varnavides made brief remarks sharing with us his experiences in shipping. He mentioned when he started as a shipping analyst and gradually evolved. He also referred to the significance of the shipping industry which is thought as the greatest industry worldwide and has nowadays become a transactional business. Mr. Varnavides also mentioned the strategies that should be followed from a shipping company and he gave a series of advices regarding financial issues that might concern any shipping company. At the end of his speech he talked about the significance of respect and charitable work and he thanked his colleagues and clients for the support.

Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos, IMO Secretary General Emeritus and Chairman of the "Maria Tsakos" Foundation introduced and presented the **"2015 Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award"** to Mr. Lambros Varnavides. Mr. Mitropoulos started his speech referring to last year's leadership award presentation and the huge success. Then he expressed his honor and appreciation for awarding this year Mr. Lambros Varnavides. At the rest of his speech, he talked about the great work of Mr. Varnavides to the shipping industry referring to the most significant points of his career, such as his lectures on shipping finance in the world's largest Universities and his present role in offering his extensive knowledge on future opportunities for UK's shipping industry.

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For more details and extensive information, please visit:

The CAPITAL LINK website: www.capitallink.com
The CAPITAL LINK FORUM website: www.capitallinkforum.com

ABOUT CAPITAL LINK

Capital Link is a 20 year old Advisory, Investor Relations and Financial Communications firm with a strategic focus, among other, on the global maritime sector. Capital Link's headquarters are in New York with a presence in London, Athens and Oslo. We have become the largest provider of Investor Relations and Financial Communications services to international shipping companies listed on the US and European Exchanges. Capital Link has focused on elevating the profile of Greek Shipping and Shipping to a wider audience around the world, including investors, analysts, bankers, financiers and industry participants. We are humbled that our efforts have been recognized by the **2011 Greek Shipping Lloyds Awards and in 2012 and 2013 by Intercontinental Finance Magazine.**

In our effort to enhance the information flow to the investment community and contribute to improving investor knowledge of shipping, Capital Link has undertaken a series of initiatives beyond the traditional scope of its investor relations activity, such as:

- **www.CapitalLinkShipping.com**: A web based resource that provides information on the major shipping and stock market indices, as well as on all shipping stocks. It also features an earnings and conference call calendar, industry reports from major industry participants and interviews with CEOs, analysts and other market participants.
- **[Weekly Capital Link Markets Report \(e-Newsletter\)](#)**: Weekly distribution to an extensive audience in the US & European shipping, financial and investment communities with updates on the shipping markets, the capital markets and listed company news.
- **www.CapitalLinkWebinars.com**: Sector Forums & Webinars: Regularly, we organize panel discussions among CEOs, analysts, bankers and shipping industry participants on the developments in the various shipping sectors (containers, dry bulk, tankers) and on other topics of interest (such as Raising Equity in Shipping Today, Scrapping, etc).
- **[Capital Link Investor Shipping Forums](#)**: In New York, Athens and London bringing together investors, bankers, financial advisors, listed companies CEOs, analysts, and shipping industry participants.
- **www.MaritimeIndices.com**: Capital Link Maritime Indices: Capital Link developed and maintains a series of stock market maritime indices which track the performance of U.S. listed shipping stocks (CL maritime Index, CL Dry Bulk Index, CL Tanker Index, CL Container Index, CL LNG/LPG Index, CL Mixed Fleet Index, CL Shipping MLP Index – Bloomberg page: CPLI. The Indices are also distributed through the Reuters Newswires and are available on Factset.