



PRESS RELEASE

The “2019 Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award” was presented to:

Captain Paris Dragnis
Chairman & Founder - Goldenport Group
Friday Feb. 22, 2019
Athens Hilton Hotel, Athens

February 26, 2019

The “[10th Annual Capital Link Greek Shipping Forum](#)” was held in Athens on Friday, February 22nd, 2019, at the Hilton Athens Hotel, in cooperation with the New York Stock Exchange and Nasdaq. The Lead Sponsor was Bank of Communications Financial Leasing Co., Ltd. The Forum was held with huge success attracting 1,200 participants. The “2019 Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award” was presented during lunch.

2019 CAPITAL LINK GREEK SHIPPING LEADERSHIP AWARD



In the context of the forum, **Captain Paris Dragnis, Chairman & Founder - Goldenport Group**, received the “**Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award**”. We recognize **Captain Paris Dragnis** for his long standing achievements and contribution to the shipping industry. He has built Goldenport into a large, diversified and highly respected shipping conglomerate with operations in Greece and abroad, thereby enhancing the reputation of Greece as a global industry leader.

Mr. Simos Palios, Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO - **Diana Shipping Inc.**, introduced **Captain Paris Dragnis**, Chairman & Founder - Goldenport Group.

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.

Previous honorees were: in 2013 **Captain Panagiotis N.Tsakos**, 2014 **Mr. Pericles Panagopoulos**, 2015 **Mr. Lambros Varnavides**, Vice Chairman of the Baltic Exchange, Trustee of the Lloyds Register Foundation and Managing Director and Global Head of Shipping RBS 1998, 2016 **Messrs. Nicolas, George and Andreas Tsavlis** of the Tsavlis Salvage Group, 2017 **Professor Costas Th. Grammenos** CBE DSc, LRF Chair in Shipping, Trade & Finance, Chairman, Costas Grammenos Centre for Shipping, Trade & Finance, Cass Business School, City, University of London, and 2018 to **Messrs. Panos Laskaridis**, President of European Community Shipowners Associations; CEO, Lavinia Corporation/Laskaridis Shipping Company Ltd. and **Athanasios Laskaridis**, Chairman and CEO of Lavinia Corporation, Lavinia Enterprises Limited and Laskaridis Shipping Company Ltd.

Welcome Remarks: **Mr. Nicolas Bornozis**, President – Capital Link.

Mr. Nicolas Bornozis, in his speech he stated: “Thank you once more for being here, for helping us make this event the best of its kind in Greece. Our goal is to keep promoting Greek shipping across the globe. Please join me in a moment of silence dedicated to Mr. Pericles Panagopoulos. His passing is a great loss as he was a truly great man.”

Introductory Remarks by:

Mr. Simos Palios, Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO - Diana Shipping Inc.



Mr. Simos Palios, stated: “Congratulations to the organizers for this great event, which is contributing to the promotion of our industry. It is a great honor to be presenting Captain Paris Dragnis, whose global efforts make him a worthy recipient of this award. He is a man interested in offering and in producing, not in his personal profit. During the crisis, he has been constructing luxury yachts in Greece, offering jobs to Greek families while maintaining the upmost quality. He never shied away from responsibility and his evolution is remarkable. His presence in the London stock market speaks for itself. Lastly, I admire the way he has passed on his values onto his children.”

HONORING:

Captain Paris Dragnis, Chairman & Founder - Goldenport Group



In his speech, **Captain Paris Dragnis** focused on tips he would give today to a young man who wishes to have a career in shipping. Taking as example his personal experiences and the clarity and wisdom of their accumulation, he referred to the values that shaped his route. More particularly, he spoke for the virtues of the character that requires a career in shipping, the development of those skills that will help to distinguish himself in this field and the importance of cultivating the sense of patriotic duty.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Introductory Remarks by:

Dr. Nikolas P. Tsakos, Founder, President and CEO - Tsakos Energy Navigation (TEN) and Former Chairman - INTERTANKO



Dr. Nikolas P. Tsakos, stated: “It is my pleasure to introduce a man who hardly needs any introduction, **Dr. Grahaeme Henderson**. He is a recognizable figure in the maritime sector, and I had the pleasure of working with him. He is someone who wants to know everything about his assets, a man who leads his troops by example. His main concern, throughout his illustrious career, has always been the human factor.”

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KEYNOTE SPEECH: "How Shipping Can Thrive: Today, Tomorrow and in the Future"

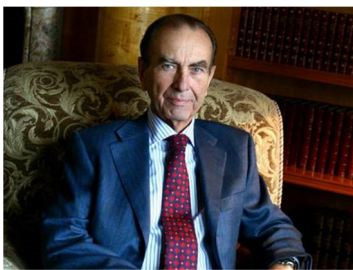
Dr Grahaeme Henderson, Vice President, Shipping & Maritime - Shell International Trading and Shipping Company Limited



Dr Grahaeme Henderson, who leads the Global Shipping & Maritime Group at Shell, addressed the future of the industry and how it can thrive through the challenges it is facing. The industry is in a period of great change, the world is moving towards a low emissions future and shipping is under pressure to act, whilst continuing to serve the world's growing population. He argued that to thrive, there are fundamental challenges that need to be addressed, such as the industry's safety record, its environmental impact, and the role of new technologies. To achieve the necessary improvements, heads of industry must show leadership and take the responsibility, working together to make the future.

IN MEMORY OF PERICLES PANAGOPOULOS

A moment of silence was dedicated to Pericles Panagopoulos



During the official luncheon of the Forum, a moment of silence was dedicated to Pericles Panagopoulos.

Pericles Panagopoulos, the Greek shipping magnate widely considered as being one of the most influential and successful shipping magnates. **Pericles Panagopoulos** was a leading figure in the Greek Shipping Community; he commanded the respect and appreciation of the industry on a global scale and was a symbol of wisdom and contribution. He had a long and distinguished career in shipping and had made a significant contribution to the industry. He played an important role in developing

cruise around the world and was a pioneer in the creation of new conditions for the operation of passenger / ferry lines by designing and building modern high speed ships, which he launched not only in Greece but also in other international lines throughout Europe. And it was for all these reasons, that in **2014** in the context of our **"5th Annual Capital Link Greek Shipping Forum – Positioning for the Rebound" – Feb. 24, 2014, in Athens, the "2014 Capital Link Greek Shipping Leadership Award"** was presented to **Pericles Panagopoulos**, who had then stated that: "Shipping has been for me, more than an occupation. It has been my whole life, for the last 60 years or so. I am proud to say, that Royal Cruise Line, Attica Group and Magna Marine, have proved to be worthy children of this long standing tradition of maritime innovation. In spite of the risks and hazards that lie ahead, the shipping industry will continue to grow together with the global economy. Shipping was, is and will continue to be the artery donor of the real economy. For Hellenism and Greece shipping will always be something uniquely precious. The Greek state should acknowledge and appreciate the importance of Greek shipping and incorporate the synergies of the blue economy into a National Strategy Plan which would help to boost the growth of the country's economy." **Pericles Panagopoulos** had concluded his speech by stating that if he could start again his life and his career he would try to do exactly the same things as he did in the past and the present.

We will always think high of him as he has set a very good example for the industry and the society.

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Founded in 1995, Capital Link is a New York based investor relations, financial communications and advisory firm with a strategic focus on the maritime, commodities and energy sectors, MLPs, as well as Closed-End Funds and ETFs. Based in New York City, Capital Link has presence in London, Athens & Oslo. Capital Link is a member of the Baltic Exchange and works very closely with the New York Stock Exchange, NASDAQ and the London Stock Exchange as well as with major international and supranational organizations and industry associations in the areas of the firm's strategic concentration.

Our proactive approach, which integrates Investor Relations, Information Technology and Media, enhances awareness and branding for our clients through tailored outreach programs targeting analysts, institutional and individual investors and the financial media complemented by extensive and uniquely powerful marketing platforms. Capital Link offers a full suite of services including strategic and corporate advisory, investor relations, media relations, public and industry relations and the organization of corporate events. Capital Link is also known for the organization of large scale, high quality Investment Forums focusing on maritime transportation and U.S. investment products in key industry centers, such as New York, London, Athens, Limassol, Shanghai, Singapore and as of this year in Tokyo. We organize twelve to fourteen conferences annually, of which seven are focused on the maritime sector. The Capital Link Investment Forums feature industry leaders and draw the elite of the global financial and investment communities. The Capital Link brand is widely-recognized and valued worldwide by participants in these communities for combining rich informational and educational content with as well as superior networking opportunities. In addition to conferences, Capital Link organizes Webinars focusing on investment strategies, sectors, critical topics of interest to the investment community and company presentations. Capital Link's global marketing platform enhances the visibility and reach

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of these events on a global scale that lasts well beyond the date on which each event is held, becoming a continuous reference point for market participants.

Capital Link's efforts have been recognized by the 2011 Lloyds's List Greek Shipping Awards, in 2012 and 2013 by the InterContinental Finance Magazine and in 2016 by the Wealth & Finance Magazine, Also, by the International Propeller Club of the United States and AHI-American Hellenic Institute.