

5th TRADING IN U.S. WATERS @ POSIDONIA 2026

Thursday, June 4 | Metropolitan Expo Center | Central Seminar Room

U.S. and Greek Approaches on Today's Maritime Challenges

creative CODE

Seminar at Posidonia



Shark Tank Event



10:30 – 11:00

REGISTRATION – WELCOME COFFEE

11:00 – 11:30

INTRODUCTION – OPENING REMARKS



Elias Spirtounias
Executive Director
American - Hellenic Chamber of Commerce



John D. Saracakis
President
American - Hellenic Chamber of Commerce



Yuri Arthur
Commercial Counselor
U.S. Embassy, Athens



Joe Hughes
Chairman, NAMEPA
Board Member, American P&I Club



Costis Frangoulis
President
International Propeller Club



Seminar Moderator:
Carleen Lyden Walker
Co-Founder/CEO, North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA)
Chief Evolution Officer, SHIPPINGInsight, Fmr. IMO Maritime Ambassador

11:30 – 11:45

DISCUSSION:
TRADING SMART IN U.S. WATERS: COMPLIANCE, COST AND COMPETITIVE EDGE



Sydney Plante
Acting Associate Administrator for Strategic Engagement at the Maritime Administration (MARAD)
U.S. Department of Transportation



Matthew Thomas
Partner, International Trade Maritime
Blank Rome Law Firm



Dana Merkel
Partner, Maritime
Blank Rome Law Firm

11:45 – 12:15

SESSION 1: SAFEGUARDING GLOBAL TRADE AMID GEOPOLITICAL RISK



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Thanos Dokos

National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister



Daniel A. Tadros

Chief Operating Officer
The American P&I Club

Representative

Navios



Robert Obayda

Chief of Staff to the CEO, Davie Shipbuilding
Former Director of Maritime Industrial Policy, White House National Security Council



Dr. Mariniki Psifia

ALBA Visiting Faculty – Economist
Head Shipping Market Analyst, Latsco Marine Management

12:15 – 12:30

SESSION 2: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE: AI IN GLOBAL SHIPPING



Joshua Divin

Senior Vice President, Marine Business Development
American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)



Maria Kolitsida

Founder and CEO
Signal Fusion



George Kokosalakis

Executive Director, Center of Excellence in Shipping, Logistics & Energy
Associate Professor, School of Business and Economics, Deree

12:30 – 13:00

SESSION 3: OPTIMIZING ENERGY IN SHIPPING: TECHNOLOGIES, EFFICIENCY, AND THE PATH AHEAD



Sydney Plante

Acting Associate Administrator for Strategic Engagement at the Maritime Administration (MARAD)
U.S. Department of Transportation



Themis Vagiakos

Director, Global Sustainability, Global Sustainability Center Greece
American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)

Cynthia Hudson

President
Shoreline Hudson



Kirk Kaiser

Chief Technical Officer
Airglide AI

13:00 – 14:00

NETWORKING LIGHT LUNCH

14:00 – 14:15

KEYNOTE ADDRESS



Vassilis Kikilias
Minister
Ministry of Maritime Affairs, and Insular Policy

14:15 – 14:45

DISCUSSION: STRATEGIC COLLABORATION AGREEMENT



Panos Xenokostas
President & CEO, ONEX Shipyards & Technologies Group
President, Hellenic Shipyards Association



Georgios Plevrakis
Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean
Hanwha Ocean

14:45 – 16.15

SHIPPINGInsight's SHARK TANK: A COMPETITION OF INNOVATIVE U.S. MARITIME

TECHNOLOGIES - *U.S. new technology groups pitch their advanced solutions to pre-eminent "Sharks" and the global Posidonia audience*



Sharks

Kimberly Guilfoyle
U.S. Ambassador to Greece
Embassy of the United States of America



Marina Hadjipateras
Founder and General Partner
TMV



Semiramis Paliou
CEO
Diana Shipping Inc.



George Alexandratos
President
Hellenic Chamber of Shipping

Dr. Nikolas P. Tsakos
CEO
TEN Ltd



Stephen Schueler
Managing Director, European Maritime Finance
Chairman, Enerjen Capital



Danae Bezantakou
1st Vice President, Propeller Club of Piraeus
CEO, Navigator Shipping Consultants

Presenting U.S. Firms



Keeney-Ritchie Miles

Founder and CEO
Aloft Systems



Anastasija Kuprijanova

Director of Business Development
Carbon Ridge



Sidney McLaurin

Founder and CEO
Fleet Robotics



Hans Olson

Director of Business Development
Quartermaster AI



Sean Simons

CCO & Co-Founder
Robot Toolworx



Matthew Ezekiel Riley

CEO and Co-Founder
Sidonia

16:15 – 16:30

CONCLUSIONS



Carleen Lyden Walker

Co-Founder/CEO, North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA)
Chief Evolution Officer, SHIPPINGInsight, Fmr. IMO Maritime Ambassador
