

Announcement of the winner of the Cyprus Maritime Award 2019

By Mr. Nicos Nicolaides

Chairman of the Selection Committee

Sunday 6th October, 2019

Parklane Resort and Spa ,20:00 hours

Your Excellency, President of the Republic of Cyprus,
Your Excellency, Secretary General of the IMO,
Shipping Deputy Minister to the President,
Ministers,
Excellencies, Ladies & Gentlemen,

On behalf of Limassol Municipality, I warmly welcome you to our city for the Cyprus Maritime 2019.

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus decided to establish the Cyprus Maritime Award, for the purpose of promoting and further developing Cyprus Merchant Shipping. The two established Awards are:

**The Cyprus Maritime Personality Award and/or
The Cyprus Shipping Industry Award.**

The Selection Committee of the Cyprus Maritime Award 2019, which was appointed by the Shipping Deputy Minister to the President, at its third session on the 23rd September 2019, unanimously decided that this year's Award will be the

"Cyprus Shipping Industry Award "

And it will be bestowed to:

SAFE BULKERS INC.

SAFE BULKERS INC., has shown an **outstanding contribution** specifically with respect to:

- *the Establishment of Cyprus as a Maritime Center,*
- *the Growth and quantitative improvement of the Cyprus merchant fleet,*
- *the Positive contribution to the Cyprus Economy,*
- *Seafarers training*

as well as a significant number of activities falling within the abovementioned areas.

SAFE BULKERS INC. has two affiliated ship management companies, Safe Bulkers Management Limited which was incorporated in Cyprus in 2015, and Safety Management Overseas.

SAFE BULKERS INC. is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. The fleet of Safe Bulkers consists of 41 medium and large size bulk carriers (Panamax, Kamsarmax, Post –Panamax and Capes) of 1,7 million gross tonnage and with an aggregate carrying capacity of 3,8 million dtw (dead weight tones) . 39 out of these 41 vessels fly the Cyprus flag. The average age of the fleet of the said Company is 8,5 years making it one of the world's youngest fleets of Panamax to Post Panamax class vessels.

I should be noted that 850 seafarers serve on board Safe Bulkers fleet.

The contribution of the Company to the economy of Cyprus is substantial and diverse.

It is particularly noted that the Company is employing in Cyprus **50 people in its recently acquired offices in Limassol** , out of which **70% are EU citizens**.

The Company, is a pioneer in all shipping innovations, particularly in environmental matters, and places great emphasis on crew professionalism and education by investing in their training programs and technology to ensure the successful implementation of environmental initiatives.

Based on the above achievements and contribution of **SAFE BULKERS INC.** to the Cyprus maritime cluster, the Cyprus shipping and economy, the members of the Selection Committee have come to their unanimous decision.

On behalf of the Selection Committee, I extend our sincere congratulations for the bestowal of this year's Award to the **SAFE BULKERS INC** and wish them every success in their future endeavors.

I kindly invite now Mr. Polys Hajioannou, CEO of Safe Bulkers INC, to proceed on the stage and receive the Award on behalf of the Company.
