



Cultural Networking Evening

You couldn't convince anyone that you were working hard during last night's event. Isn't it amazing how much networking can be done sipping coconuts around a water fountain?

Walking to the venue was like being an extra in an old movie. Guests were transported to a different time... this was the Caribbean life of a bygone area. Everyone last night at the cultural evening was treated to a century's old Caribbean experience with the typical 'kachu', [blowing horns] and ka'i òrgel, [music box]. Guests strolled up the waterfront to the infectious rhythms of the drums, led by ladies in traditional folkloric dress, and typical donkeys. We were transported back to a time in Curaçao when the simplicity of life was a daily treasure. The evening culminated at the beautiful de Gouverneur building, the former home of the Governor de Rouville of Curaçao with a sumptuous array of traditional cuisine.

Catch the Cube! - Another First @ CSEC

CSEC Curaçao showcased another first in CSA conference history at the Opening Ceremony yesterday morning. After the inspirational speech delivered by CSA's President, David Jean Marie, and welcome addresses from Curaçao's Minister of Economic Development, Errol Goeloe and Curaçao Ports Authority's CEO, Humberto de Castro, our CSEC Conference Manager, Milaika Capella-Ras introduced a new way of "passing the mic". It's a cube!.... a soft blue box containing a wireless microphone that you can easily throw to the next person who wants to participate in a discussion on the floor. Now, that's what we call out-of-the-box!



Today's Sessions

There were so many informative sessions with thought provoking discussions, that it was hard to select what to highlight out of each session, but here's a good snapshot of the some topics discussed yesterday.



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON MARITIME SECURITY AT IMO

by Javier Yasnikowski, Head Maritime Security, IMO

Security remained a hot topic at today's sessions including this one, which gave an extensive overview of the various concerns about port security, company security, and the security of our vessels. Yasnikowski stressed that companies should implement systems for continuous evaluation of security threats and assessments of their security measures already in place. Companies should see this as an ongoing part of conducting business and not simply as a project with a finish date. IMO offers assistance in addressing these issues and subsequent training. Yasnikowski concluded by asking for help from the room, saying that IMO needs experts to help deliver the work they offer. Learn more at <https://roster.imo.org>

OCEAN SHIPPING- IS THERE FINALLY SOME GROWTH OUT THERE?

by Robert West – Consultant, Ports and Marine Terminals

There is Growth...a Slow Growth

If you're used to saying that we live in challenging times or that we suffer from the effects of the world crisis, reframe this to: We are living in uncertain times. Mr. West effectively showed, with several examples, how many things we would never have thought possible before, are now affecting the socio-economic and political arena. From the tally of casualties and displaced in Syria to the Venezuelan fall from a wealthy to "poor" country, and many other crazy changes that are going on in the world, we encounter so much uncertainty that forecasting has become less of a science and more of a game, as we try to figure out what's going on in the world and how to adapt in winning ways for our companies.

Still, he had some good news on which he based his forecast, saying that both volume and profit will be up, although not much. The Caribbean will see a volume growth and transshipment will continue to be important in our region.



CPA'S PROJECTS SHOWCASE

by Raul Manotas - CCO Curaçao Ports Authority

The Mega Pier may have seemed like the next big thing at CPA, but after Mr. Manotas presented the line-up of projects on CPA's list, it seems like the Mega Pier is just the tip of the iceberg. The most eye-catching was a video showing impressions of a developed Waaigat area, an infrastructural investment that will ultimately lead to an urban beach, development of residential, commercial and recreational areas, and to top it all off, a marina. The Scharloo area, already undergoing a transformation into both a business district and a center for art and creativity, would complete the surroundings with restaurants, entertainment, parks and pedestrian ways, and help promote the island's unique culture. In addition, the CPA's plans to transform Bullenbaai into a strategic maritime hub with ship-to-shore and ship-to-ship operations caught many delegates' eyes and certainly highlighted the numerous ways in which all these projects would benefit the Curaçao community.



CYBER SECURITY IN PORTS

by Max Bobys, William Lusk - Oceans LLC, Mark Dupont - Oceans LLC

This was an interactive workshop, another first for CSEC, that used the conference App to tailor the profiles that most likely fit the participants. Through the use of a website, they were divided into several groups to play the roles of cyber attackers and to plan a hypothetical cyber attack.

The goal of this activity was to demystify the angst around cyber attacks and to help people gain an understanding on how to manage cyber threats going forward, with realistic and sustainable security measures. The sessions highlighted the fact that cyber threats are constant and are becoming more and more sophisticated with organized companies and cyber criminals who attend conferences held regularly around the world, to collaborate on new ways to hack into companies. It was also highlighted that sometimes a company's greatest vulnerability is the lack of training of their staff and subsequent lack of awareness extended to their families.





Today's Topics

8:30 AM

INSPECTIONS AND COMPLIANCE, MARINE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

Capt. LaDonn Allen - US Coast Guard

- 2016 Port State Control Annual Report
- MARPOL Annex VI 2016 Statistics
- US Ballast Water Management Statistics
- Qualship 21 E-Zero
- Cyber Risk Management Approach
- Foreign Port Audits
- Marine Transportation Systems
- M/V Caribbean Fantasy Casualty

9:30 AM

VALUE DEPLOYMENT: SHIPPING BEYOND THE SEAS

Miguel Carrillo – Arthur Loc Jack Graduate School

11:00 AM

GLOBAL STATE OF THE CRUISE INDUSTRY

Federico Gonzalez-Denton – Director, Government Relations, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line

This session features a general overview of the state of the cruise industry, the growth of the industry over the years, future growth trends and what other regions are doing to attract the industry.

11:45 AM

DISCUSSION ON CURRENT TRENDS IN FERRY SERVICES AND BLUE SKY VISION FOR CARIBBEAN ROUTES

Dan MacDonald – Senior Project Manager, CBCL

Discussion of the current trends in the development of ferry terminals, ferry operations and infrastructure. It addresses topics such as development requirements, service, customer experience, security and safety.

2:00 PM

VULNERABLE CARIBBEAN CORAL REEFS, COASTLINE & ECONOMIES

Dr. Lisa Sorenson, Executive Director BirdsCaribbean

An illustration of how our collective activities in the water, on land and in the sky are destroying the Caribbean's coral reefs and coastlines, thereby impacting our regional economies and public health. Recent restorative efforts will be noted, and suggestions offered to promote a "Climate of Hope."

2:30 PM

WONDROUS WEST INDIAN WETLANDS

Dr. Judith Lang, AGRRA Scientific Coordinator Ocean Research & Educational Foundation

Caribbean wetlands and the birds and other creatures that inhabit them are infinitely fascinating and unique. Here's a brief overview of the many functions and values of the region's wetlands and mangroves, what threatens them, and the conservation solutions.

4:00 PM

PORT TOUR (BUS LEAVES TO PORT TOUR AT 3:30PM)

Get an insider's view of the port of Willemstad, situated in the natural deepwater harbor of the Anna Bay. See the picturesque waterfront, called the Handelskade, as you go deeper into the harbor to see the facilities and services of the drydock and container terminal and the various piers located in the Anna Bay.







LEGENDARY HEADACHES

What can probably be considered headaches of “historical proportions”, were those of Albert Kikkert, Governor of the Netherlands Antilles in the early 1800’s. At the time, all the historic buildings in the city of Willemstad were white, to which he attributed his migraines. Legend has it, that he declared that all the buildings should be painted in different pastel colors to reduce the glare.

Fickle as it may sound, and whether the legend has any truth behind it, the brightly colored buildings certainly do make for a unique twist on the typical Dutch architecture. The city was established in the mid-1600’s and replicated many of the typical Dutch designs found in Amsterdam. Through the centuries, the architecture was adapted to better suit Curaçao’s dry and windy climate, and as the unique color-scheme was introduced in the 1800’s, the architecture took on its own unique style.

Many of these quaint historic buildings have remained intact through the centuries. The historic integrity of the entire city was recognized in 1997, and declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We are proud to contribute to the world’s cultural and natural heritage by being a member of this esteemed UNESCO World Heritage List alongside other famous sites such as the pyramids of Egypt, the Taj Mahal and the Acropolis.



Spouse Program

If you were secretly napping yesterday in the afternoon sessions...maybe you should join the spouses next time....and if you weren't, here's what you missed....

