



AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE
OF MARINE SURVEYORS

Shipshape

December 2025



**Bulk carrier safety, efficiency
reshaped by new rules, tools**

YEAR'S END A TIME TO REFLECT

A time to reflect on achievements and highlights

THE approach of our 40th year as the peak body representing marine surveyors in Australia provides me with an opportunity to reflect on the achievements and highlights of the past 12 months as Chairman.

At the beginning of the year, in conjunction with fellow Board members and our CEO, Dr Eric Perez, a five-year strategic plan was developed to assist in guiding AIMS along a path of growth.

This plan was based on four pillars: Partnerships and affiliations; Building the membership base; Business development, marketing and promotion; and Professional development and standards. It sets AIMS up to continue to make its members relevant in the marine industry and continue to ensure a level of professionalism that is both expected and demanded.

During the last year, AIMS has formed an alliance with WISTA – the Women’s International Shipping and Trading Association Australia.

Working with WISTA allows AIMS to provide women, inside and outside the world of shipping, an opportunity to gain an insight into what a marine surveyor does and allows AIMS to tap into a large potential pool of future surveyors.

AIMS continued its push into the recreational space by forming an alliance with Boating Industry Association (BIA) of WA (Inc).

Western Australia is an important manufacturing hub for recreational boating, as well as being a challenging area for boaties. By promoting vessel safety through insurance and pre-purchase inspections, AIMS surveyors are ensuring that a day on the water is one to be enjoyed, not one to regret.

Our important partnership with Austbrokers Countrywide continues the provision and critical information regarding insurance products and service options for members.

AIMS remains a strong advocate of the need for professional indemnity and public liability insurance coverage.

AIMS continues its role as a primary source of knowledge for its members.

This year has seen more than 30 webinars and educational offerings created by our CEO. These offerings are from a broad range of industry



specialists and on an even broader range of relevant subjects.

Relevance for any profession is an on-going issue. How do we, as professionals, maintain our relevance with our clients and industry?

Primarily, we are risk mitigators. Marine surveyors provide clients with a means to identify the risks when they undertake any marine venture and how to mitigate those risks to an acceptable level. We maintain our relevance by continuing to provide a level of service and advice that adds value to our client’s venture.

As an organisation, AIMS continue to increase its relevance in the marine industry by contributing to the AMSA DCV Marine Surveyors Accreditation Working Group as a contributing organisation.

AIMS has also been recognised by Standards Australia as a leader in our field by providing contributions to the review of five standards: lifejackets; electrical installations for marina; ships and offshore facilities; shipbuilding; and small vessels (less than 35 metres).

On behalf of the Board and AIMS, I would like to wish all our members a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. If the opportunity arises, which it seldom does in our profession, find some time to put up your feet and enjoy some precious time with family and friends.

Eric McIlwain
Chair of the AIMS Board