

## **ANDREW GRAY I AUGUST 2022**

## Inspiring return to in-person events

CJC staff have been delighted to get back on the road during 2022 and re-connect with clients and colleagues face-to-face, from the USA to India and Singapore to Piraeus. CJC Director <u>Andrew Gray</u> reflects on what shipping has learned after its enforced travel hiatus.

Pictured (l-r): Ian Short, Cecilie Rezutka and Andrew Gray, en route to Nor-Shipping in Oslo



Staged in April, the Nor-Shipping conference and exhibition in Oslo brought an inspiring kick-start to the maritime calendar of events for 2022, especially after a fairly bleak winter which saw another resurgence of Covid in various parts of the world. The show was distinguished by the energy and enthusiasm exhibited by those attending to re-engage in person with as wide a range of people from across the shipping industry as possible.

Three of our dispute resolution team, <u>lan Short</u>, <u>Andrew Gray</u> and <u>Cecilie Rezutka</u>, attended what proved to be an outstanding event, with sustainability and green shipping at its heart. On top of the many excellent presentations and industry displays, opportunities to network and make contacts at Oslo's off-site events proved equally valuable.

Moving forward a few months, several of our lawyers were able to attend the iconic shipping gathering at Posidonia in June,

taking part in the full range of sports, conference presentations and social events on offer.

What has all this renewed business travel and activity taught us? First, that we are all social creatures and need to interact with others in order to thrive, both in business and socially. Secondly, that the shipping industry which we love and serve is resilient and has emerged from the pandemic strong and reinvigorated.

This is without doubt in large part due to the outstanding contribution of seafarers worldwide, who have literally kept the world afloat over the last two years.

Finally, there is an appetite and resolve for shipping to be at the forefront of problem solving and developing new technologies when it comes to tackling climate change and carbon reduction. These issues affect every aspect of our lives and are in no way confined to the maritime sector. But it is inspiring to be part of a global industry that sees the importance of leading by example and has made green issues the cornerstone of so many events this year.

## For further information, please contact:



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