

Maritime Procurement & Supply Chain Management The Here and Now

22-23 Sep 2026 | Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Westminster, London, UK

DAY ONE

Strategic Overview and Talent Management

10:30 – 10:55

The State of Maritime Procurement: Trends, Priorities & Future Direction

Drawing on findings from the latest IMPA Industry Survey, this opening presentation from IMPA's CEO will provide an exclusive overview of the key trends, challenges and opportunities influencing procurement professionals today.

From ESG and supply chain resilience to talent, technology and artificial intelligence, this session sets the scene for the discussions ahead.



Susan Koefoed
Chair & CEO, IMPA
Finance, Weco Shipping

10:55 – 11:25

Keynote Speech: The Advantages of Modern Buying and the Risk of Knowing Less

Maritime procurement has never had more tools, data or capability at its disposal, and yet something is being lost. Drawing on experience at the sharp end of shipowner procurement, this keynote celebrates the gains the profession has made while sounding a warning: as the industry evolves, are we developing the next generation of buyers, or simply inheriting a workforce that has never had to learn the "hard" way?

A perspective on what modern procurement gets right, and what it risks getting wrong.



Rick Ackermann
Head of Procurement
BW LPG

11:25 – 11:55

Growing Your Own: Building the Next Generation of Procurement Talent from the Ground Up

Fiona leads a team where over 70% of staff are in the first few years of their professional procurement careers. Rather than treating that as a challenge, she has made it her mission. In this candid and practical session, Fiona shares her first-hand experience of building structured development programmes that give junior buyers the knowledge, confidence and commercial instinct the role demands, and what it looks like when that investment pays off.

A session about what good talent development actually looks like in a busy procurement environment, and why it matters more now than ever.



Fiona Kerr
Head of Procurement
North Star

12:00 – 13:25

NETWORKING LUNCH

13:25 – 14:25

Leadership Debate: Perspectives on Talent, Knowledge and the Next Generation of Procurement Professionals

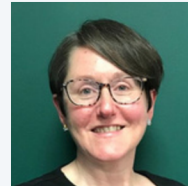
A debate that tackles an uncomfortable truth that many senior figures recognise but few say openly: that as processes mature and tools proliferate, the depth of knowledge being developed by the next generation of buyers may not match what the role truly demands. What are the consequences for commercial performance, supplier relationships and operational resilience? And what must industry leaders do — now — to reverse the trend?



Rick Ackermann
Head of Procurement
BW LPG



Fiona Kerr
Head of Procurement
North Star



Joanne McCulloch
Global Head of Fleet
Procurement & Logistics
V.Ships



Alex Drew
Group Procurement Director
FLEET Management Limited

14:25 – 14:35

COFFEE BREAK

ESG & IMPA SAVE – Carbon, Circularity and Supply Chain Transformation

14:35 – 15:30

impasave
People, Planet, Profit, Purpose

IMEF: From Framework to Implementation

Explore the latest developments from the Maritime Environmental Footprint Initiative (IMEF), including implementation progress, pilot findings and practical case studies. Contributors to the IMEF Implementation Guides will share how emissions data can be collected, integrated and utilised across maritime supply chains.



Paolo Magonio
Head of Group
Procurement &
Services, Scorpio Group



Saurish Nandi
Head of Compliance
Solutions, ShipServ

15:30 – 16:00

Closing the Loop: The IMPA SAVE Rope Circularity Initiative

Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of synthetic rope reach the end of their operational life each year, yet disposal pathways often remain unclear.

This session provides an update on the IMPA SAVE Rope Circularity Initiative, examining progress to date, key findings and opportunities to create greater transparency, traceability and value within the rope recycling process.



Tore Strand
Chief Executive Officer
and Co-Founder, C-Loop

16:00 – 16:30

Day One Forum: Reflections, Debate and Audience Q&A

DAY TWO

Digital Transformation & Artificial Intelligence in Maritime Procurement

10:30 – 11:00



The Digital Procurement Landscape: Readiness, Adoption & Trends

Drawing on insights from the latest GMPC Digitalisation Maturity Index, this session explores the current state of digital transformation across maritime procurement and supply chains, highlighting key trends, challenges and opportunities shaping the industry's future.



TBC

11:00 – 11:20

AI Demystified: A Practical Introduction for Maritime Procurement

This introductory session explores what AI is, how it works and where it can create value within maritime procurement and supply chain management.

Designed for those at the start of their AI journey, it focuses on practical applications and implementation opportunities.



Immo Brüggemann
Managing Director,
Creatum GmbH

11:20 – 11:40

COFFEE BREAK AND NETWORKING

11:40 – 12:00

AI in Practice: A Shipowner's Perspective

How are shipowners using artificial intelligence to improve decision-making, streamline operations and enhance procurement performance?

This case study session provides a first-hand account of how AI technologies are being applied within a maritime organisation, highlighting lessons learned, measurable benefits and future ambitions.



Henning Wegner
Head of Procurement
Oldendorff Carriers

12:00 – 12:20

AI in Practice: A Supplier's Perspective

How are maritime suppliers using AI to support customers, optimise logistics and improve operational performance?

This case study explores real-world applications of artificial intelligence within a supplier organisation, highlighting benefits, challenges, lessons learned and opportunities for future development.



Will Rush, CEO & Co-Founder, Breakwater

12:20 – 12:30

Audience Forum: AI Adoption Across the Maritime Industry

12:30 – 13:00

AI in Maritime Procurement: Promise, Reality and Responsibility

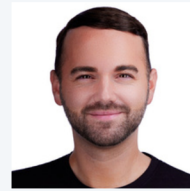
Is AI working? Is it doing enough, or can it do more? Do you want it here at all, or does it not quite make sense? In the first of two panel sessions, guest speakers will interact with the audience based on live feedback and questions to debate where AI stands right now in maritime procurement, where it could be heading, and whether it is being managed correctly.



Henning Wegner
Head of Procurement
Oldendorff Carriers



Carsten Schmidt
Vice President
ProcureShip



Will Rush
CEO & Co-Founder
Breakwater



Immo Brüggemann
Managing Director,
Creatum GmbH

13:00 – 13:30

Lunch & Learn: Emissions Monitoring at the Wilhelmsen Ships Service Stand

Step away from the conference and grab a bite to eat at the Wilhelmsen Ships Service stand. Join a focused session unpacking what the UK ETS legislation (now in force as of 1 July 2026) actually requires, the practical implications for vessel owners and managers, and how and how organisations can avoid overpayment on UK ETS.



Claudia Stolk, Head of Sales
Revelle™ Emission Monitoring,
Wilhelmsen Ships Service B.V.

13:00 – 14:00

NETWORKING LUNCH

The Great AI Debate

14:00 – 14:20

Beyond Today: The Future of Artificial Intelligence

What could the next five years hold for AI in maritime procurement and supply chain management? This forward-looking session explores emerging technologies, future applications and the opportunities and challenges organisations should be preparing for as AI adoption continues to accelerate.



Philippe Lavarde, Managing
Director & CEO, Closelink

14:20 – 15:30

AI in Maritime Procurement: Promise, Reality & Responsibility - Continued

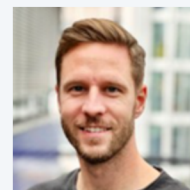
The debate continues with a fresh panel of voices. Building on the themes and audience questions raised in Part One, this second session brings new perspectives to the conversation, broadening the range of views on AI's role, potential and responsibilities within maritime procurement and supply chains. The session closes with an open audience Q&A, giving delegates the opportunity to put their questions to the panel and contribute their own experiences.



TBC



Saurish Nandi
Head of Compliance
Solutions, ShipServ



Philippe Lavarde
Managing Director &
CEO, Closelink



Kenny K.S. Lee
Founder & CEO,
NARWHAL PROJECT