

**PAPER PRESENTATION AT THE MAIDEN EDITION OF
M.C. OGADINA ANNUAL MEMORIAL LECTURE (OAML)**

**TOPIC: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MARINE, INSURANCE &
SURVEYING INDUSTRIES**

DATE: FRIDAY 17TH JUNE 2022.

TIME: 11.00AM TO 1.00PM

**VENUE: EMMAN UNACKWU HALL (ALUMNI BUILDING)
YABA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, YABA,
LAGOS.**

BY: MR. R. O. FALOKUN

INTRODUCTION

It is a great honour that the Nigerian Guild of Marine Surveyors (GMS) has thought it right and befitting to institute the annual memorial lectures in honour of our erstwhile late prime founder and first elected President Mr. Monday Chidi Ogadina of blessed memory to project his vision and educate the general public on the importance and relevance of the Nigerian Guild of Marine Surveyor in the maritime and insurance industries.

It is sad that the Guild of marine surveyor has had to lose our first elected president at his prime; but we take solace in the fact that the worthy successor of our president in the person of Mr. Wale Adetoro has vowed that Mr. Ogadina's good works, humility, determination, trustworthiness, sacrifice, loyalty and other enviable virtues and so on will never be erased.

OGIC. You were indeed a rare and uncommon professional and silent intellectual achiever, badly needed to continuously hold the feet of the Guilds of Marine Surveyor and its stakeholders! A token of that vow and what our succeeding President stands for is what we are all eyewitnesses today.

I must confess that I feel humbled to have to be the guest lecturer on this important maiden edition of a dynamic topic such as the **“Developments in the Maritime, Insurance and Survey industries,”** our familiar terrain and constituency.

History & Roles of the Guild of Marine Surveyor.

It is necessary to let the public to be aware that the Guild of Marine Surveyors is an independent umbrella body of registered Marine Surveyors, Cargo Superintendents and Maritime Consultants/Experts in Nigeria such other professional body and association in the United Kingdom, United States of America and even our close neighbour, Ghana.

The Guild of Marine Surveyors (GMS) is an affiliate of International Institute of Marine Surveying IIMS of London: a leading worldwide professional body for marine surveyors representing its industry to government and non-governmental organisations such as the International Marine Organisation (IMO), Coastguards, P&I Clubs, insurance companies, brokers, vessel and ship owners was established on 25th November 2004 and registered with the Nigeria Corporate Affairs Commission on 21st March 2005 with responsibility of issuing of independent technical Reports in the event of disputes, facts verification and management of marine claims on Cargo, Hull and Machinery for owners and/or Marine underwriters, including stevedoring legal liability claims.

Partnership & Collaboration

- The association commenced partnership with the Nigeria Shippers' Council at the Roundtable seminar on **CARGO EXPOSURE TO RISK OF DAMAGE, LOSS AND DELAY AT NIGERIAN PORTS AND TERMINALS** organized by the Cargo Défense Fund of the Nigerian Shippers Council in May 2013 with maritime operators from Nigeria neighboring countries at Rock View Hotel, Apapa, Lagos.
- We have also participated at several workshops/seminars and the educational tour organized by the Marine Offices Committee of the Nigerian Insurers Association, in Cotonou in Benin Republic with a visit to the Cotonou ports and other relevant Marine/Transportation Organizations 2015.

Advantage of this Annual Lecture

- We believe that the event will afford participants to meet industry leaders and discussed with potential valuable partnerships with one of the hidden aims will be to bring industry professionals to Shipping, Maritime Survey and a hub to meet, share knowledge, and discover cutting-edge technologies.

Relevance of Marine Insurance Surveyor

- You will agree with us that the transport and logistic sector is an integral part in terms of facilitating international trade as because it allows firms to effectively complete imports and exports of goods and services and associated transactions.
- Our association the marine Insurance Surveyors will provide expert consultation within the Shipping industry on the condition, construction and damage of ships, and the stowage and transportation of cargoes and also assess values for insurance claims, appraisals for sale, and serve as impartial witnesses.
- This expert knowledge is rarely something that can be learned from textbooks alone as Marine Surveyors generally have extensive first-hand experience in their field.

National & International Conferences

- We were delighted to participate in the International Maritime Industries Networking and Reception at the Roundtable Seminar on CARGO EXPOSURE TO RISK OF DAMAGE, LOSS AND DELAY AT NIGERIAN PORTS AND TERMINALS organized by the Cargo Defense Fund of the Nigerian Shippers Council in May 2013, at the Rock View Hotel, Apapa, Lagos! The event was one of the largest in the industry that afforded participants to meet industry leaders and discussed potential valuable partnerships.
- Similarly, we believe one of the hidden aims of this inaugural Ogadina Annual Lectures AOL, Lagos 2022, will bring industry maritime professionals to Shipping & logistics, Insurance, ILAN, Marine Insurance Surveyors, a hub to meet, share knowledge, and discover cutting-edge technologies.

Objectives of Guilds of Marine Surveyors

- It is the desire of the Guilds to reach out by this programme to people who know little or nothing about our activities as we operate largely within a low-profile industry with little known about it by the world at large both in terms of historic and contemporary knowledge, and also in terms of the vast and useful service we provides to every one as a whole, making to assist us to take control of our destiny, to promote maritime heritage and to attract the dynamic young talents that the organization need.
- Our vision is Education. Education of the public and education within maritime circles to take the industry forward technologically and to protect and identify maritime heritage, to enrich human knowledge and understanding of the vital roles of the Guilds of Marine Surveyors and commercial shipping in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the global environment.

How we can achieve our objectives

- From the above what we are doing right now is a programme of communication through education. It is about increasing the insuring public and regulators awareness and understanding of the role of the guild of marine surveyors the vital role it plays in sustaining day-to-day life around the shipping and insurance world through electronic and print media. It is about what the Guilds through the insurance industry in all its forms can offer to the society, the young people looking up to us for guidance and mentorship and about providing worldwide access to quality in-depth information to those who know little about the about what we stand for.
- These are needed to relevant on the world business and professional Map (*This can be a worthwhile Capital intensive.*)

STRONG RELATIONSHIP WITH NPA & NIMASA

- We believe that our topic cannot be considered in isolation of two of the Federal Government of Nigeria major establishments like the **Nigerian Ports Authority**- the owner and administrator of land and waters within port limits, and The Nigeria Maritime Administrator and Safety Agency (**NIMASA**) which is committed to the enthrone of global best practices in the provisions of maritime services including labour regulation, marine pollution prevention and control and cabotage enforcements amongst other.

BADGE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM CONSIDERATION

- The Managing Director of NPA, Mohammed Bello-Koko during a morning Program show on Arise TV Friday June 3, 2022, stated that the Lagos maritime ports which process more than 70% of Nigeria's non-oil exports are in populous urban areas and as such, constitute a major strain on key roads which cause congestion and environmental issues. The road system linking the Ports Complex are regularly congested.
- The mix of cargo trucks, buses, cars, and other users stretches the capacity of the roads NPA must focus attention on the pathetic state of port access road from Mile 2 to the second gate of the Tin-Can Island port and the road from Ijora to the Lagos Port Complex (LPC), Apapa.
- The poor condition of the road based on the unruly activities of the truck drivers and security agents, has put pressure on port users and residents of Apapa and its surrounding. This development has heightened the call on NPA to adopt on multiple modes of transportation for which NPA is considering encouraging the badge transportation system which can be a great source of income to our members.
- I am aware of our association good relationship with NPA and its current Managing Director Mr. Mohammed Bello-Koko and will encourage us to constitute an active liaising Committee to further deepened and strengthen our relationships with them as feelers let us know that expectations of the Federal Government of Nigeria and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) is very high on the establishment.

NPA Revives Training School in Lagos

- The Managing Director of NPA, Mohammed Bello-Koko expressed concern over the problem of scarcity of skilled workers and said authority planned to partner the World Maritime University (WMU) and the Nigerian Navy Hydrography Department, as well as the Nigerian Institute of Marine and Oceanography Research and the University of Lagos.
- We believe we can so position our association for our member to be among the training programme

Note on Mentoring

- Let me reiterate my cardinal recommendation during our last induction and AGM of 26th November 2021 that the guild needs to consider apprenticeship scheme for young surveyors to mentor the younger ones since students do not always leave universities with an eye set on a technical career as a marine insurance surveyor.
- **Conclusion.**
- **Thanks, and God bless.**