



## SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF GUYANA

Leaders In Advocacy For The Shipping Industry

### NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3 | December 2025

# Guyana Set to host CSA 56<sup>th</sup> AGM, Conference and Exhibition in 2026



Dr. Komal Singh

The Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) is set to host the Caribbean Shipping

Association (CSA) 56<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, Conference and Exhibition in October 2026.

The official announcement was made by Dr. Komal Singh, Chairman of the SAG at the CSA AGM, Conference and Exhibition in Paramaribo, Suriname in October 2025.

"The Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) is honored to host the Caribbean Shipping Association's 56<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting conference and exhibition in Georgetown, Guyana in October, 2026. It

was unfortunate we could not have hosted this event in Guyana earlier but we now have a reasonable amount of accommodation that can facilitate the successful hosting of this event. Additionally, the timing for this event could not be at a better time," Dr. Singh reported.

The SAG has started preparation for the prestigious event.

*Please find Dr. Singh's report to the 55th AGM on page 3 and 4.*

# SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF GUYANA

is proud to welcome  
delegates to the

# 56<sup>th</sup>

## Caribbean Shipping Association AGM, Conference and Exhibition

**October 26-27, 2026 in Georgetown, Guyana**



# IN THIS ISSUE

## Pg. 3:

Dr. Singh's report to the CSA 55<sup>th</sup> AGM, Conference and Exhibition in Suriname

## Pg. 4:

ExxonMobil Guyana Wins Chairman's Award, John Fernandes Ltd. Cops double prize...

## Pg. 5:

SAG Participates in 55<sup>th</sup> CSA AGM and Conference in Suriname

## Pg. 6:

SAG joined scores of exhibitors at GuyExpo 2025

## Pg. 7:

SAG New Management Committee 2025-2027

Richard Van Sluytman Appointed Trustee

## Pg. 8:

CSA President sees opportunities in the challenges faced in the Modernization of the Shipping industry...

ISPS Training for non-security personnel attracts 15 participants

## Pg. 9:

Sixteen attend ISPS Code Seminar

## Pg. 10:

SAG Congratulates MARAD on acquisition of 2 more Pilot boats

World Maritime Day Observed with Exhibition at National Stadium

## Pg. 11:

SAG partners with AP Logistics to present IMDG TRAINING

CSA Re-elects William Brown, Maria del Mar Rodriguez as President and Vice President

## Back Page:

Snap Shots of Annual Dinner 2025

## Distinguished guests at SAG Dinner 2025



Hon. Minister Deodat Indar poses with CSA President Mr. William Brown, British High Commissioner Her Excellency Jane Miller, SAG Chairman Dr. Komal Singh and executive members. See story on page 4.



## Our New Look Logo

A sleek modern emblem with a bold 3-D metallic finish, featuring an anchor and flowing waves, symbolizing strength, stability and Guyana's enduring connection to maritime trade.

## Our Mission

Through dynamic LEADERSHIP and ADVOCACY, SAG will actively represent the interests of its members, clients, stakeholders and all other operators at local, regional and international levels, ensuring the highest standards of efficiency to facilitate movement of imports and exports and maximize national economic growth.



**S.A.G.**  
SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF GUYANA

### Secretary/Manager

Tel: 592 226 2169 | Fax: 592 226 9656

Email: saginc@networksgy.com

Lot 10-11 Lombard St., Werk-en-Rust,

Georgetown, Guyana, South America

Website: [www.shipping.org.gy](http://www.shipping.org.gy)

### BECOME A MEMBER NOW



Scan me to visit  
our website



# Dr. Singh's report to the CSA 55<sup>th</sup> AGM, Conference and Exhibition in Suriname



Dr. Komal Singh addresses the CSA Annual General Meeting in Suriname.

The Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) is honored to host the Caribbean shipping association's 56th annual general meeting conference and exhibition in Georgetown, Guyana in October, 2026. It was unfortunate we could not have hosted this event in Guyana earlier but we now have a reasonable amount of accommodation that can facilitate the successful hosting of this event. Additionally, the timing for this event could not be at a better time.

The hosting of this prestigious event has been on our radar for some time now after hosting the association's first (CSEC) Caribbean shipping executives' conference in May, 2002.

Guyana's strategic coastal location within the Caribbean & Latin American region coupled with our growing maritime sector makes us an ideal host for this conference in 2026. The country's shipping industry has experienced remarkable growth, with a significant increase in vessel traffic and continues to play a vital role in the nation's economic expansion.

As an advocate for the entire shipping industry in Guyana, the

Shipping Association of Guyana's commitment to improving maritime infrastructure aligns with the government's strategic vision for the sector. Guyana's maritime sector is rapidly evolving, driven by significant investments and strategic initiatives such as new ports, new bridges etc.

As you are aware, Guyana is dubbed one of the fastest growing economy in the world. We have seen growth in every single non-oil sector showing consistent progress for the last five years.

With prudent government policies, we now have an enabling private sector environment that allows the private sector to thrive and grow in a very significant manner.

Key developments that have a direct impact on the sector

➤ **INFRASTRUCTURE:** the government is developing port facilities and infrastructure to accommodate larger vessels, positioning Guyana as a transshipment hub.

- Parika Fort Facility - this will be the hub for the regional ferries that is being touted by CARICOM

heads.

- The new Demerara River Bridge.

## ➤ INDEPENDENT PORT AUTHORITY:

an independent port authority body will be established to ensure transparency, accountability, and efficiency in maritime operations. This is currently under discussion.

## ➤ OIL AND GAS OPPORTUNITIES:

Guyana's oil discoveries have transformed its economic landscape, with potential for future exploration and development. The country's strategic location facilitates easier access to North American and European markets, making it an attractive hub for oil and gas operations.

## ➤ PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY:

Initiatives like the Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WIMAC) Guyana chapter promote gender equality and empower women in the maritime sector through capacity building, mentorship, and advocacy.

## ➤ MARITIME ECONOMY PLAN:

Guyana has launched a national maritime economy plan to transition to a maritime economy, aligning with its low carbon development strategy and national ocean policy. This plan aims to strengthen ocean governance and capacity.

## ➤ AGRICULTURE SECTOR:

Guyana started mega farming a few years ago with soya and corn in the next year we will be in a net export position, which will again depend on the maritime industry to offer competitive freight rates and easy movement for us

to tap into the market both regionally and internationally with competitive pricing.

➤ **MANUFACTURING SECTOR:** the growth of this sector will put more demand on the maritime industry as such it is important for Guyana and the region to develop a more resilient maritime sector. The current gas to energy plant

will have a direct impact on the growth of this industry.

➤ **CONSTRUCTION OF A DEEPWATER PORT:**

The development mentioned above will transform the maritime sector locally and regionally in a significant way. Our meeting here today and the many more conversations

and collaboration will serve as a catalyst for what the industry will be tomorrow and in the future. We look forward in welcoming you all to Guyana next year and we can guarantee, you will have an unimaginable experience for those of you who will be visiting for the first time.

# ExxonMobil Guyana Wins Chairman's Award, John Fernandes Ltd. Cops double prize, while Philip Fernandes recognized for Dedicated Service to the SAG at Annual Dinner



Awardees at the SAG Annual Dinner and Awards ceremony

The Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) hosted its Annual Dinner under the Theme "Navigating the challenges of Modernisation in a developing Shipping Industry" on December 16th, 2025 at the Marriott Hotel. Hon. Deodat Indar, Minister of Public Utilities and Aviation delivered the feature address. Mr. William Brown, President of the Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA) was the guest speaker. There were also remarks by SAG Chairman Dr. Komal Singh.

In his address, Minister Indar said there has seen a significant increase in the number of ships passing through Guyana over the past five years. He added with increased budgetary

allocations towards dredging the Demerara channel, operators are transporting higher volumes of cargo with larger vessels.

Minister Indar noted that the shipping and maritime industry remain important to Guyana's economy with an estimated 80 percent of global goods transported by sea.

He outlined major ongoing projects including the construction of the Parika Port for roll-on/roll-off vessels and project studies to build a deep-water port at Berbice.

Meanwhile, ExxonMobil Guyana was awarded the Chairman's Award in recognition of their leadership and contribution to

the growth and advancement of Guyana's Oil and Gas Sector.

Immediate Past Chairman Mr. Philip Fernandes was presented with the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his years of dedicated service and commitment to the SAG.

John Fernandes Limited received the Terminal of the Year Award, the first of its kind for Service Excellence. The runner-up was the Guyana National Industrial Co. Inc.

Muneshwers Limited, Kestrel Limited and John Fernandes Limited copped the Innovativeness awards in recognition of their response to the needs of the shipping industry.

Service Excellence Awards were presented to Tropical Shipping (Shipping Line) AFS Shipping (Ship Owner) and GUYWILLSHIP International (NVOCC) in recognition of their demonstration of exceptional service, reliability and customer satisfaction.

Guyana Shore Base Inc. received the Safety Award in recognition of outstanding safety practices, incident free operations and innovative safety solutions.

# SAG Participates in 55<sup>th</sup> CSA AGM and Conference in Suriname

The Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) was represented by a substantive delegation of members at the 55th Annual General Meeting, Conference and Exhibition of the Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA), held from October 12-14th, 2025 in Paramaribo, Suriname.

During the conference, SAG Chairman Dr. Komal Singh delivered Guyana's Report and led a team in high-level discussions with CSA President Mr. William Brown and General Manager Ms. Milaika Capella Ras.

The discussions focused on advancing regional shipping collaboration and outlining initial preparations for Guyana's hosting of the 56th CSA AGM and Conference in Georgetown in 2026.



Some members of the Guyana delegation at the CSA Conference in Suriname



Distinguished members of the CSA Silver Club



Guyana's delegation at their meeting with CSA President Mr. William Brown and General Manager Ms. Milaika Capella Ras



# SAG joined scores of exhibitors at GuyExpo 2025

The SAG's much-anticipated preparation of hosting the Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA) 56th Annual General Meeting, Conference and Exhibition next year took centre stage at GuyExpo 2025. The SAG utilized its booth to promote the forthcoming Conference as well as promoted its services and that of its members.

The exhibition took place from November 13-16 at the National Exhibition Centre. The Association expressed its appreciation to all visitors to its booth during the Expo.



Visitors to the SAG Booth at GuyExpo 2025.



SAG Trustees Mr. Andrew Astwood and Dr. Desmond Sears greet Attorney General Hon. Mohabir Anil Nandlall.



SAG Executives in discussion with visitors.



# SAG New Management Committee 2025-2027

**D**r. Komal Singh was elected Chairman of the Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) following the installation of a new Management Committee on

February 27, 2025. The other members of the committee are Mr. Allan Newark – Vice Chairman, Mr. Philip Fernandes – Immediate past chairman, Ms. Glenis Hodge, Mr. Gobin Persaud,

Ms. Jennifer Prashad, Mr. Gidel Thorne side, Ms. Nalini Jamuna, Mr. Chandradat Chintamani, Mr. Sachin Prittipaul and Ms. Hayley Gilbert.



Dr Komal Singh  
Chairman



Mr Allan Newark  
Vice Chairman



Mr Philip Fernandes  
Immediate Past Chairman



Ms Glenis Hodge  
Member



Mr Gobin Persaud  
Member



Ms Jennifer Prashad  
Member



Mr Gidel Thorne side  
Member



Mr Chandradat Chintamani  
Member



Ms Nalini Jamuna  
Member

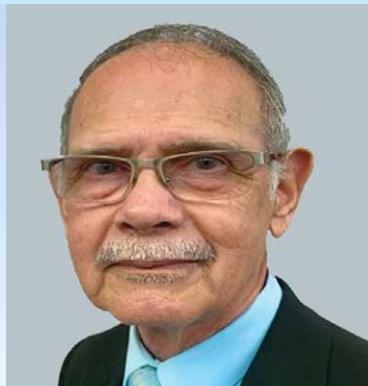


Mr Sachin Prittipaul  
Member



Ms. Hayley Gilbert  
Member

## Richard Van Sluytman Appointed Trustee

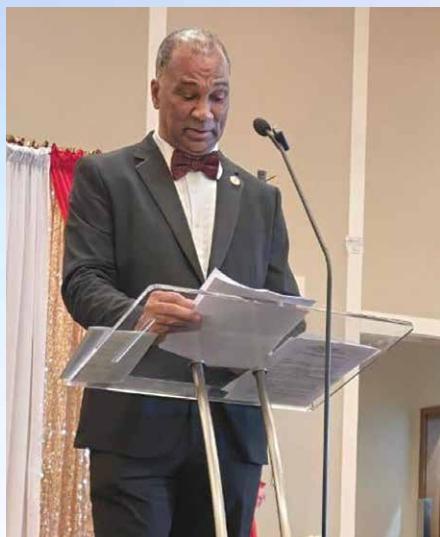


Mr. Richard Van Sluytman

**M**r. Richard Van Sluytman, Director of C & V Caribbean Shipping Ltd. was appointed a Trustee of the Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG). Mr. Van Sluytman's appointment became effective in May 13, 2025, following the passing in October 2024 of Mr. Clinton Williams, former President and Trustee of the Association.

Mr. Van Sluytman brings to the Association a wealth of experience having served the shipping industry for over 40 years. He joins Mr. Andrew Astwood and Dr. Desmond Sears as the three Trustees of the Association.

# CSA President sees opportunities in the challenges faced in the Modernization of the Shipping industry in the Caribbean



CSA President, Mr. William Brown

## In Address at SAG Annual Dinner and Awards ceremony

President of the Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA), Mr. William Brown, said Modernization of the shipping industry in the Caribbean is no longer an option but it is urgent and essential for the competitiveness of the region.

Mr. Brown made these remarks at the Guyana Shipping Association (SAG), Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony on December 16th, 2025 at the Marriott Hotel.

He said the theme for the event, "Navigating the challenges of Modernization in a developing Shipping Industry" was timely, noting that the Caribbean must now seize the opportunities that are unfolding in global trade, global business and maritime development.

"This topic stood at the center of regional discussions we had at the recently held 55th (CSA) Annual General Meeting in Suriname. Modernization is no longer an option, it is urgent, it's unavoidable and it's essential for the region's competitiveness," Mr. Brown stated.

He said, there are three core challenges facing the Caribbean Shipping Industry and a fourth that binds all three together.

They are the modernization of infrastructure in a changing global environment, digitalization and resilience while the binding force is human capital development.

"The task is not building for today but for the next 30 years. While the challenges are great, the opportunities are greater, Mr. Brown emphasized.

He said, Guyana is in a unique position by building capacity with its strong economic growth, expanding imports and rising global interest.

Mr. Brown expressed appreciation to His Excellency President Mohamed Irfaan Ali and the Government of Guyana for relief assistance to the victims of hurricane Melissa. He requested the audience to observe a moment of silence for the 102 victims from Jamaica, Dominican Republic and Haiti who died during the storm.

# ISPS Training for non-security personnel attracts 15 participants



Training Consultant Mr. Eion Oudkerk (left) with participants at the ISPS training programme.

The SAG conducted a half-day training programme in May, 2025 on The International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code for Non-Security Personnel. It was attended by 15 participants from six (6) member Companies. The Presenters were Mr. Eion Oudkerk, Training Consultant with the assistance of Mr. Andrew Astwood, SAG's Training Co-ordinator.

ISPS is crucial for enhancing maritime security and is essential

for shipping Terminals to:

1. Mitigate security risks:- Identify and manage potential threats to ships, ports, and crew.
2. Comply with regulations:- Adhere to international maritime security standards.
3. Protect crew and passengers: - Ensure safety and well-being.
4. Prevent security breaches:- Safeguard against

unauthorized access and malicious activities.

5. Enhance industry reputation:- Demonstrate commitment to security and safety.

**Key topics in ISPS training include:**

1. Security threat assessments
2. Access control and surveillance
3. Incident response and crisis management

4. Communication and cooperation

By investing in ISPS security training, shipping companies can ensure a safer and more secure maritime environment.

ISPS programmes are conducted free of charge by the SAG for its members as a part of its annual training plan aimed at ensuring improved skill development in the maritime industry in Guyana.

## Security Personnel attend ISPS Code Seminar



Participants display their certificates following the ISPS Training. Also in photo are SAG Trustee Mr. Andrew Astwood and Facilitator Mr. Eion Oudkerk.

The Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) in collaboration with the Maritime Administration Department (MARAD) hosted an International Ships and Port Security Code (ISPS) one-day Seminar for Security Personnel on November 25th, 2025 in the SAG Boardroom.

The programme was attended by 16 participants representing the following member companies - Guyana National Shipping Corporation, Demerara Sugar Terminal, Demerara Shipping Company, John Fernandes Ltd.

Muneshwers, CKHL, Guyana National Industrial Co. Inc.

The ISPS Code is a set of measures to enhance the security and port facilities. It was developed in response to the perceived threats to ships and port facilities after the 9/11 attacks. The ISPS Code is part of the Safety of Life and Sea Convention (SOLAS) and compliance is mandatory for the 148 Contracting Parties to SOLAS. Topics included: Origin of the ISPS Code, Requirements of the ISPS and its relevance to ports, Use of Port Facility Assessment Plan, Declaration of Security and Assess

Control, Delivery of Ship Stores, Handling of Cargo, Monitoring security at ports, Analyzing risks, and Areas of Training for Security personnel.

The facilitators were Major (Retired) Dwain Nurse of the Maritime Administration Department (MARAD) and Training Consultant Mr. Eion Oudkerk.

The Welcome remarks was delivered by Mr. Andrew Astwood, SAG Trustee who also assisted in the presentation of certificates to the participants.

# SAG Congratulates MARAD on acquisition of 2 more Pilot boats

The Shipping Association is delighted to extend warmest congratulations to the Maritime Administration Department (MARAD) on the acquisition of two new pilot boats. 'HAIAMA' and 'HAIAKWA'.

"This significant investment in modernizing your fleet is a testament to your commitment to ensuring the safety and efficiency of maritime operations in our waters," the SAG stated.

"The new pilot boats will undoubtedly enhance the department's ability to provide reliable and safe pilotage services, supporting the growth of our maritime industry. We appreciate the hard work and dedication that has gone into procuring these vessels, and we look forward to seeing them in operation. We are confident that these new pilot boats will serve the department well and contribute to the continued success of our maritime industry, the SAG noted.



Ministers Hon. Juan Edghill and Hon. Deodat Indar at the commissioning of the two new vessels.



The two new pilot vessels Haiama and Haiakwa.

## World Maritime Day Observed with Exhibition at National Stadium

Shipping Association of Guyana (SAG) joined several organizations within the maritime sector at the World Maritime Day (WMD) Exhibition hosted by the Maritime Administration Department (MARAD) on September 25th 2025 at the Guyana National Stadium.

The organisation hosted three of its members Tropical Shipping, Guyana Port Inc. and Krestel Guyana Inc. at its booth: Hon. Deodat Indar – Minister of Public Utilities and Aviation and Captain Stephen Thomas (Head of MARAD) joined visitors during the day's activities. Dr. Desmond Sears, SAG Trustee delivered a message on behalf of the Association during the opening ceremony.



# SAG partners with AP Logistics to present IMDG TRAINING

THE SAG on 5th March, 2025 presented for its members, an awareness session on the IMDG CODE.

IMDG (International Maritime Dangerous Goods) training is crucial for stakeholders involved in the transportation of hazardous materials.

## Importance of IMDG Training:

1. Safety.... Protects people, environment, and assets from potential hazards.
2. Compliance.... Ensures adherence to international regulations (IMDG Code).
3. Risk Reduction.... Minimizes risks associated with handling, storage, and transportation.
4. Liability Protection.... Demonstrates due diligence and reduces liability in case of incidents.
5. Efficient Operations.... Streamlines handling and transportation processes.

The session was of significant benefit to:

1. Shipping companies
2. Terminal operators
3. Logistics providers
4. Shippers and consignees

During the two (2) hour session, participants were advised about the purpose of the Code and the related measures to ensure proper:

1. Classification and labeling of hazardous materials

2. Packaging and containerization
3. Marking and placarding
4. Documentation and reporting
5. Emergency response procedures

The Session was conducted by a team from AP Logistics, an international Company experienced in the handling of dangerous goods and operating in the Shipping Sector in Guyana. By investing in IMDG training, stakeholders can ensure a safer, more compliant, and efficient transportation process.



AP Logistics facilitator during his presentation at the IMDG Training

## CSA Re-elects William Brown, Maria del Mar Rodriguez as President and Vice President

Mr. William Brown and Ms. Maria del Mar Rodriguez were re-elected President and Vice President respectively of the Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA) at its 55th Annual General Meeting, Conference and Exhibition held in Paramaribo, Suriname from October 12-14, 2025.

Mr. Brown, Chairman and CEO of Cascades Shipping Services and Ms. Rodriguez, Assistant Vice President at Tropical Shipping



Mr. William Brown and Ms. Maria Del Mar Rodriguez.

will continue their leadership of the CSA for the 2025-2026 term.

# Snap Shots of Annual Dinner 2025

