



The Marshall Islands Registry

Marshall Islands Registry Hosts South Korean Reception

Reston, VA, USA, 18 May 2018

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Registry marked the opening of its 28th worldwide office in Busan, Republic of Korea with a reception at the Lotte Hotel in Busan in May.

Joined by over 140 attendees from across the regional shipping community, the RMI Registry welcomed a mix of guests, including shipowners, financial institutions, shipyards and admiralty lawyers. The Registry was represented by individuals from various regional offices in Asia, as well as Bill Gallagher, President from the Reston office and Theo Xenakoudis, Director, Worldwide Business Operations from the Piraeus office.

Although International Registries, Inc. and its affiliates (IRI), who provide administrative and technical support to the RMI Maritime and Corporate Registries, has had a presence in Seoul since 2007, the recent establishment of the Busan office reasserts the Registry's dedication to South Korea.

For local clients, the office ensures 24/7 communication, avoids costly delays, and removes any possibility of language barriers, creating the ease and efficiency of business that owners and operators require.

Thomas Blenk, who was announced as Safety & Technical Manager for the Busan office last year, said of the reception:

A quality, growing ship registry needs to ensure that it is able to support its clients with a highly efficient and user-friendly service. IRI is committed to resourcing the Registry with the breadth and depth of expertise needed to manage a fleet that today comprises over 4,350 vessels. We now have over 400 staff members in 28 offices around the world, creating a network that empowers and supports our clients whenever and wherever they need us. This reception was a great chance to further engage with the South Korean shipping community.

Commenting on IRI's presence in South Korea, Annie Ng, Head of Asia, IRI added:

The South Korean shipowning market is an important one to us, with over 12 million gross tons under the Marshall Islands flag. Having a senior local presence is crucial and benefits not only the Korean shipping community, but also provides a local point of contact for registrations coming out of the Korean yards. We appreciate the wider IRI community for joining us as we open the Busan office, including Captain Kim, Representative, whose efforts were instrumental in establishing our client base here.