ABSTRACT SUBMISSION –– SOUMISSION DE RESUME

**Topic No.: / Sujet n° : ------------------ or / ou**

**proposed topic / sujet proposé: Ports – Essential for safe, efficient and secure global trade**

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ABSTRACT / RESUME:

**The role of today’s Harbour Masters is diverse, charged with overseeing the safety and efficiency of navigation in often very challenging areas of waterway and also responsible for commercial efficiency in an environment where the consequences of delays or incidents can have a major impact upon regional, national and international economies.**

**This paper will explore the strengths and weaknesses of the interface between the Harbour Master and the rapid developments in the safety and efficiency of navigation.**

**In particular, the implications of developments in maritime domain awareness, single windows, e-Navigation and VTS will be compared and contrasted with the day to day challenges faced by Harbour Masters in both the safe and efficient management of ports. Is it a case of single windows or opaque triple glazing, maritime domain awareness or confusion, high quality VTS or cash hungry infrastructure, reduction in administrative burdens or a recipe for confusion?**

**With thousands of Harbour Masters around the world working in ports ranging from significant multi-million dollar plus operations through to very small harbours with limited resource, the paper will explore how todays Harbour Masters can effectively contribute to, utilise and exploit the full range of marine aids to navigation and other developing technologies.**

**The essential requirement for an effective interface between Harbour Masters and other authorities and agencies involved in ensuring the safe and efficient navigation of vessels will be discussed to highlight the vital role of Harbour Masters in ensuring successful voyages and a sustainable planet in a highly connected world.**