

Singhai MD Mr. Terence Zhao attends the 7th Annual Capital Link Singapore Maritime Forum

On March 25, the 7th Annual Capital Link Singapore Maritime Forum, held by Capital Link in partnership with the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) and co-hosted by Singhai Marine Services and Columbia Shipmanagement, was successfully held at The Westin Singapore. As a flagship event of the Singapore Maritime Week 2025, the forum brought together global shipping leaders, financial institutions, and industry experts. Mr. Kitack Lim, former Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), also attended as a distinguished guest.



The forum focused on reinforcing Singapore's strategic position as Asia's gateway and a global maritime hub. It delved into critical developments and emerging trends across energy, commodities, and diversified shipping sectors, while integrating insights from global financial and capital markets to analyze the industry's future trajectory. Key topics included shifts in global trade patterns, updates to maritime regulations, digitalization, technological innovation, and energy transition.



Singhai has maintained a long-standing partnership with Capital Link, co-organizing annual Capital Link International Maritime Forums in major maritime hubs such as Shanghai and Singapore. These events attract industry experts and professionals, fostering offline collaboration platforms for the maritime sector. At the opening ceremony, Mr. Terence Zhao, Chairman of Singhai, delivered welcoming remarks alongside Mr. Nicolas Bornozis, Founder of Capital Link, and Mr. Mark O'Neil, CEO of Columbia Group.



Mr. Terence Zhao also participated in a panel discussion titled "NAVIGATING THE FUTURE: STRATEGIES FOR FLEET OPTIMIZATION". During the session, he highlighted three dominant trends shaping the maritime industry: technological evolution, green transition, and training innovation. He emphasized that the widespread adoption of smart navigation systems and AI technologies has imposed new demands on crew competencies. Modern seafarers must now master foundational nautical skills, digital operational capabilities, and green vessel knowledge—requirements not systematically addressed in traditional training programs five years ago. Concurrently, the retirement of experienced crew members has exacerbated talent shortages, further challenging the industry's workforce alignment.



Mr. Terence Zhao emphasized that in the context of rapid industry transformation, continuous learning is more critical for seafarers than merely obtaining certifications. As a professional maritime maritime human resources provider, Singhai is advancing its training system through three strategic initiatives: Firstly, enhancing its Shanghai and Shenzhen training centers with facilities such as professional navigation simulators and developing cutting-edge courses covering intelligent vessel operations. Secondly, leveraging its subsidiary AI Sailing to build an intelligent global networking platform serving China's 200,000-strong ocean-going seafarer community. Additionally, Singhai is deepening collaboration with government agencies and maritime academies through targeted training programs and customized order-form classes to systematically expand the international seafarers talent pool equipped with emerging technical competencies.



The forum has further highlighted Singapore's competitive strengths as a premier global maritime hub and underscored Asia's dynamic commercial and trade opportunities, providing a strategic platform for global shipping stakeholders to explore partnerships and market expansion. Singhai remains committed to monitoring industry evolution and supporting sustainable development in global shipping through its specialized maritime HR services.