BIMCO TRAINING

BIMCO

MARITIME CHARTERING

ACADEMY

Kuala Lumpur

20-23 October 2026

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Fundamentals of chartering & market dynamics

09:00-09:30

Introduction and welcome:

- Overview of the BIMCO Maritime Chartering Academy – Objectives, structure of the four-day program and key learning outcomes
- Participant introductions & industry context – Brief introductions, backgrounds and expectations.

09:30-10:30

Introduction to the global shipping markets (dry bulk, tanker, container, offshore):

- Market segmentation & dynamics – Overview of dry bulk, tanker, container and offshore markets, including key trade patterns and market drivers
- Roles and relationships – Understanding the roles and interactions of shipowners, charterers and brokers across different market segments.

10:30-10:45 *Break*

10:45-11:45

Supply and demand drivers affecting charter rates:

- Macroeconomic & geopolitical influences – Global GDP growth, trade policies, sanctions, regional conflicts and their impact on shipping demand
- Commodity flows and seasonality – The influence of commodity demand cycles (eg, iron ore, coal, oil) and seasonal variations on charter rates
- Fleet supply & regulatory impact – Vessel availability, fleet expansion, scrapping rates and the effect of environmental regulations (FuelEU, CII, EEXI) on charter rates and market dynamics.

11:45-12:45

The role of shipowners, charterers and brokers:

- Roles and responsibilities – Key functions and decision-making perspectives of shipowners, charterers and brokers within the chartering process
- Commercial strategies – Balancing long-term contracts versus spot market opportunities, cargo movement planning and cost optimisation techniques
- Negotiation dynamics – Understanding market leverage, risk allocation and building effective commercial relationships among parties.

12:45-13:30 *Lunch*

13:30-14:30

Overview of key chartering terms (eg, voyage, time, bareboat charters):

- Voyage charter essentials – Freight structure, laytime, demurrage, cargo responsibilities and operational risk allocation
- Time and bareboat charter mechanics – Core terms, including hire payments, off-hire events, speed warranties, maintenance obligations, crewing and insurance
- Strategic selection of charter types – Choosing between voyage, time and bareboat charters based on operational needs, market conditions and risk management considerations.

14:30-15:30

Freight market indices and how to interpret them (Baltic Exchange, etc):

- Introduction to freight market indices – Overview and significance of key benchmarks (eg, BDI, BCI, BCTI/BDTI, WCI) and their use in chartering decisions
- Understanding index calculations: Methodology behind freight indices, including reporting panels, representative vessel types and standard routes
- Practical application and analysis – Interpreting index movements, market trends, volatility indicators and their use in strategic decisions and risk management through FFAs.

15:30-15:45 *Break*

15:45-17:00

Case study:

Participants will apply the day’s insights to a realistic chartering scenario in this interactive session. The case study reinforces key learnings, enhances practical skills and facilitates meaningful discussion on real-world chartering challenges.

18:00-20:30 ***Welcome dinner for all participants and trainers***

DAY 2

Voyage and time charter parties

09:00-10:30

Analysis of GENCON, ASBATANKVOY and other standard voyage charter forms with comparative reference to liner-oriented charters:

- Voyage charter forms overview – Introduction and historical context of key voyage charters, highlighting the primary applications of GENCON and ASBATANKVOY
- Application across market segments – contrasting voyage charter structures with liner-oriented time charter arrangements, including reference to BIMCO's BOXTIME, to illustrate how chartering concepts differ in container trades
- Examination of GENCON's risk allocation, laytime and cargo responsibilities, alongside tanker-specific clauses in ASBATANKVOY such as pumping warranties and contamination risks
- Strategic charter selection – Practical guidance for choosing the appropriate voyage charter form based on cargo type, vessel specifications and operational considerations.

10:30-10:45 *Break*

10:45-11:45

Time charter party mechanics: NYPE, SHELLTIME4 and their implications:

- Fundamentals of time charter mechanics – Understanding key concepts such as vessel employment, hire payments, charter duration and allocation of operational responsibilities
- Detailed charter party review – Analysis of NYPE clauses (speed and consumption warranties, off-hire scenarios, performance claims) and SHELLTIME4 tanker-specific provisions (vetting, cargo handling and liability)
- Commercial and operational implications – Strategic considerations for selecting and negotiating time charters, managing risk exposure and optimising vessel performance under different charter party forms.

11:45-12:45

War risks and war risks clauses:

- What constitutes war risks in the context of chartering and how do these risks impact vessel operations and contractual obligations
- New BIMCO war risks clauses, namely CONWARTIME 2025 and VOYWAR 2025 – background and key updates
- Additional insurance costs associated with war risks, including war risk premiums and kidnap & ransom coverage and how these are addressed in charter party agreements
- Assessing risk zones and exercising contractual liberties to avoid or exit dangerous areas, ensuring crew and cargo safety while maintaining compliance.

12:45-13:30 *Lunch*

13:30-14:30

Specialised voyage and time charter forms:

- Overview of specialised voyage charter forms like HEAVYLIFTVOY, HEAVYCON and COAs, and time charter forms such as SUPPLYTIME and WINDTIME - understanding their purpose, scope, and typical industry applications in heavy-lift and offshore operations
- Critical clauses related to cargo suitability, stowage, handling, hire payments, off-hire terms, performance warranties and operational responsibilities – tailored to the demands of heavy-lift and offshore wind projects
- Strategic contract selection and negotiation – choosing the right form based on cargo complexity, vessel capabilities and project requirements, while developing practical strategies for negotiating terms and managing risk effectively.

14:30-15:30

Working with rider clauses:

- Introduction to rider clauses – Purpose, importance and how rider clauses complement or modify standard charter party terms
- Frequently used rider clauses – Analysis of clauses commonly negotiated, including bunker quality, cargo-specific conditions, piracy, sanctions and environmental compliance
- Effective drafting and risk management – Practical guidance for clearly drafting rider clauses, preventing ambiguity, mitigating disputes and strategically managing commercial and operational.

15:30-15:45 *Break*

15:45-17:00

Case study – Negotiating a charter party agreement:

Participants will engage in a practical exercise involving a charter party dispute. Utilising knowledge gained throughout the day, you'll analyse real-world scenarios, identify critical contractual risks and evaluate appropriate rider clauses. Comparative reference may also be made to liner-sector chartering arrangements, including BIMCO's BOXTIME.

DAY 3

Charter party terms and vessel operations

09:00-10:30

Letters of Indemnity (LOIs):

- Delivery of cargo without original bills of lading: Use of LOIs when bills are unavailable or delayed, including switch bills of lading and implications for cargo ownership, misdelivery risk and liability exposure
- Clean bills of lading and quantity / condition issues: Requests for clean bills despite apparent defects or ship/shore discrepancies, and the resulting operational, contractual and claims risks.
- Switching discharge ports or delivery locations: Use of LOIs to facilitate changes in discharge instructions, with contrasting risk profiles under voyage and time charters.
- LOIs in voyage vs time chartering: Differences in commercial drivers, operational pressure, implied indemnities and the role of P&I cover – and why LOIs frequently become dispute triggers.
- Practical checklist for LOIs: Key points when requesting, issuing or relying on an LOI, including wording, authority, enforceability and risk mitigation.

10:30-10:45	*Break*

10:45-11:45

Impact of new fuels and regulatory compliance on ship operations:

■ Emerging fuels and operational impacts – Examining LNG, methanol, ammonia, hydrogen and biofuels, including implications for crew training, vessel compatibility, safety and operational efficiency

■ Strategic adaptation – Evaluating fleet investments, fuel selection and chartering decisions to manage regulatory risks and secure long-term operational resilience proactively.

11:45-12:45

Voyage optimisation and route planning in a decarbonised world:

■ Voyage optimisation strategies – Integrating emissions reduction goals with commercial considerations, regulatory compliance and sustainability objectives in voyage planning

■ Leveraging technology – Using advanced weather routing, predictive analytics and real-time monitoring tools to optimise fuel efficiency and reduce emissions

Practical case studies – Interactive exercises and real-world

12:45-13:30	*Lunch*

13:30- 17:00

Field trip, Westports Malaysia:

The afternoon session will feature a guided tour of Westports Malaysia at Port Klang, allowing participants to experience firsthand the operations of one of Southeast Asia's premier mega-transhipment hubs and the primary maritime gateway to central Peninsular Malaysia. This tour will offer insights into mega-port infrastructure, automated cargo-handling processes, and high-productivity terminal management along the strategic Straits of Malacca.

Photo courtesy of Westports

DAY 4

Navigating risks and legal challenges in chartering

09:00-10:30

Managing sanctions and geopolitical risks within charter parties:

- Sanctions and charter parties – Understanding international sanctions, enforcement mechanisms and contractual implications for shipping and commodity trading companies
- Geopolitical risk assessment – Identifying and managing geopolitical threats affecting trade routes, cargo availability and chartering strategies
- Contractual risk mitigation – Drafting protective clauses, best practices for sanctions compliance and proactive management of geopolitical disruptions in charter-party negotiations.

10:30-10:45	*Break*

10:45-11:45

Force majeure, frustration of contracts and managing chartering disputes:

- Force majeure and frustration defined – Understanding their distinctions, triggers (e.g., natural disasters, strikes, port closures, pandemics, geopolitical disruptions) and their contractual implications
- Recognising and responding to events – Practical guidance on identifying legitimate force majeure scenarios and effectively managing contractual obligations in response
- Dispute management strategies – Best practices for dispute prevention, clear communication, claim handling and applying contractual mechanisms to resolve conflicts efficiently.

11:45-12:45

Cargo damage and claims – chartering and contractual implications:

- Cargo damage and risk overview – Common scenarios causing cargo damage, including improper handling, stowage errors and contamination, and how these impact charter party responsibilities
- Contractual allocation of liability – How liabilities for cargo damage are defined and distributed in charter party terms, including strategies to mitigate exposure through protective clauses
- Effective claim management – Practical guidance on handling cargo claims, from drafting protective clauses and clearly defining responsibilities to proactive claim reduction strategies.

12:45-13:30	*Lunch*

13:30-14:30

Mitigating risks through collaboration with P&I Clubs and marine insurance:

- Role and function of P&I Clubs – Understanding their coverage, risk management services and claims-handling processes in supporting chartering activities
- Marine insurance as a risk management tool – Identifying key marine insurance products, coverage limits and how these policies align with charter party obligations
- Collaborative risk mitigation strategies – Practical approaches for effectively working with insurers and P&I Clubs to proactively manage charter party liabilities.

14:30-15:30

Environmental and regulatory compliance (FuelEU Maritime, ETS, CII, EEXI) in charter parties:

- Overview of Environmental Regulations – Introduction to FuelEU Maritime, Emission Trading Scheme (ETS), Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII) and Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI), highlighting their implications for charter parties
- Contractual Responsibilities and Risks – Allocating obligations between shipowners and charterers regarding compliance, vessel modifications, reporting requirements and performance obligations
- Practical Considerations and Negotiation Strategies – Strategies for drafting clauses addressing regulatory compliance, managing operational risks and mitigating disputes arising from environmental compliance obligations.

15:30-15:45	*Break*

15:45-17:00

Case study

SPEAKERS

Serena Huang

Serena is a Senior Consultant at Drewry with 15 years of experience in the shipping industry. Her expertise covers various sectors of tramp shipping, shipping decarbonization, and alternative fuels. She is committed to advancing sustainability and driving innovation within the maritime sector.

Shi Yanjie

Shi Yanjie is a Senior Freight Market Assessor at the Baltic Exchange. Prior to joining the Baltic in 2013, Yanjie worked as a shipbroker with R.S. Platou and SSY in Singapore. Since then, Yanjie has been focusing on the Baltic index production from both its London and Singapore office. Yanjie holds a Master’s degree in International Transportation Management from the State University of New York, Maritime College.

SPEAKERS

Elizabeth Sloane

Elizabeth has 18 years experience in the maritime industry. She is a partner at law firm HFW in Australia and in Hong Kong.

Elizabeth's work involves drafting and litigating all forms of shipping contracts including charterparties, contracts of affreightment, and contracts for the carriage of goods by sea. She has managed claims and casualties across the Asia Pacific region. Her admiralty law experience includes ship arrest, limitation and forum non conveniens, vessel groundings and berth damage, fire and explosion, and environmental claims.

Elizabeth is a contributing author to Maritime Law and Practice in Hong Kong (Sweet and Maxwell), the leading text on Hong Kong maritime law. She has been involved in developing industry standard form documentation as a member of BIMCO's documentary drafting sub-committee for the Methanol Annex to the BIMCO Bunker Terms. She is a regular trainer for BIMCO Masterclasses.

Elizabeth also sits as an independent maritime arbitrator taking appointments in HKIAC, SIAC and ad hoc arbitration.

John Xavier Butler

John is a partner at Adams & Moore Solicitors LLP, London. Dual-qualified as a Solicitor-Advocate in England & Wales and as a Solicitor in Hong Kong, John is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb) and has represented clients at arbitrations both 'ad hoc' and subject to institutional rules (including LMAA, SCMA, SIAC,LCIA, ICC, UNICTRAL, HKIAC, CIETAC and others).
John specialises in disputes arising out of charterparties, bills of lading, sale & purchase contacts and contracts of affreightment. Prior to joining A&M, John spent 9 years in Hong Kong (including a secondment to an IG P&I Club)and has experience of acting for parties across Asia, including owners, charterers, P&I insurers, brokers, cargo interests and shipyards in the marine sector. Outside of the marine field, John has also acted for shareholders and creditors in commercial disputes, fraud and insolvency proceedings, both before the Hong Kong and London courts.

SPEAKERS

Cindy Ko

Cindy Ko is a Senior Lawyer in Gard's Defence / Charterers & Traders Claims Asia team. She obtained her Bachelor of Laws degree from the National University of Singapore and was ranked in the top 10 in the Singapore Bar Examinations in 2014. Prior to joining Gard, Cindy practiced for 10 years as a shipping and commodities disputes lawyer in Rajah & Tann Asia's Singapore and Shanghai offices, and in Stephenson Harwood Hong Kong. Cindy is qualified to practice law in Singapore, Hong Kong, and England & Wales.

Arun Krishnalingam

Arun Krishnalingam has over thirty-three years litigation experience, predominantly in the fields of Admiralty, Shipping and Marine Insurance litigation, both in Court and in arbitration proceedings. The areas of his practice include arrest of ships and enforcement of maritime claim, collision, groundings, salvage and other casualty claims, carriage of goods by sea, air and road, charter party and bill of lading disputes, ship building, ship registration, sale and purchase of ships disputes, marine insurance, marine pollution claims, limitation of shipowners' liability claims as well as international trade disputes.

Ashok Srinivasan

Capt. Ashok Srinivasan, MBA, is BIMCO's Regional Manager, and Technical Advisor. Ashok is a highly qualified and experienced maritime professional, holding a Master Mariner's certificate, Dynamic Positioning Officer certification, and Marine Lead Auditor qualification. He also holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Copenhagen Business School. As Regional Manager and Technical Advisor at BIMCO, Singapore, Ashok champions the interests of BIMCO members and stakeholders on technical aspects of maritime operations. His expertise is recognized internationally, as demonstrated by his role as Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee at the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS). With over 24 years of experience in the maritime industry, Ashok is a recognized expert in the field. His extensive seafaring career with A.P. Moller Maersk and shipping companies provided him with experience across a diverse range of vessel types, including container ships, car carriers, oil tankers (both crude and product) and notably, gas tankers (LPG and LNG). He also possesses expertise in the offshore sector, having served as Master and Senior Dynamic Positioning Officer (SDPO) on platform supply vessels and cable layers.

ORGANISERS

Wei Zhuang

Wei Zhuang is the Head of Asia Pacific at BIMCO. Wei started his BIMCO career with the Legal & Contractual Affairs Department in 2011 where he joined a wide range of BIMCO's standard contracts and clauses projects, including project development, revision and promotion. He was further promoted as China Liaison Officer as well as the General Manager of BIMCO Shanghai Centre. Now as the Head of Asia Pacific, he is committed to keeping a constructive relationship with regional regulators and industry stakeholders and, most importantly, to provide portfolio services to BIMCO members and potential members in Asia.

Wei's previous positions include eight years as a maritime lawyer and Senior Fellow at Maritime University. He has a master's degree in maritime law and a PhD in international law.

Megan Lim

Megan joined BIMCO in 2022 as a Student Assistant supporting the Singapore office's membership activities and assisting former Deputy Secretary General, Søren Larsen. Her current role as Assistant Membership & Training Manager involves continued support for membership operations, along with efforts to expand BIMCO's presence in Singapore and broader Asia, in collaboration with the Asia team. Megan is an alumnus of Nanyang Technological University (NTU), holding a Bachelor's degree in Maritime Studies.

VENUE

Where will the course be held?

Sofitel Kuala Lumpur Damansara
No. 6, Jalan Damanlela, Bukit Damansara,
50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

For more information, please contact:

Address: Bagsvaerdvej 161, DK-2880 Bagsvaerd, Denmark
Phone: +45 4436 6832
Email: *training@bimco.org*
Web: *www.bimco.org/training*

Come talk to BIMCO:

www.bimco.org/events

Follow us:

LinkedIn
company/bimco