



May 2021

## Chair Report

### Annual General Meeting of SOMWS

It's been a year of unprecedented challenges since my last report. However, I am encouraged to share that our membership base has grown from 190 individual members in 2020 to a remarkable 320 members in 2021 split across four categories: Oil & Gas Projects, Rigs, Renewables and Cargo. Additionally, we have increased our Associate Membership base from 8 members at this time last year to 49 Associate Members.

The numbers per category are as follows:

<b>Oil &amp; Gas Projects</b>	251 members
<b>Rigs</b>	117 members
<b>Renewables</b>	57 members
<b>Cargo</b>	250 members
<b>Associate</b>	49 members

#### Associate Membership

As reported in the last newsletter, Associate Membership level is now live on the website [www.somws.org](http://www.somws.org). We have created the Associate membership level to cultivate and develop new talent within our sector. We are happy to announce, that as reported above, we now have 49 Associate Members. We would encourage anyone with the ambition of someday obtaining full membership with SOMWS to apply as an Associate Member today.

#### Website and the Application Process

Throughout the past few months, we have been working hard to digitalize the onboarding process and are aiming to have an automated application process available within the next month. This will allow new and existing members to upload their applications via the website, improving the payment and communication process and allowing a much faster review and approval system. As we move into the full launch of the new website we would welcome your feedback so that we can ensure that the interface supports your needs.

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## **Joint Rig Committee (JRC)**

Last year launched the formation of the Industry Liaison Committee, including support from our directors who also sit on the JRC, to generate interest, value, and ultimately engagement from our other interested stakeholders: the buyers of insurance. With continued support from the JRC and continued industry outreach, we feel optimistic that 2021 will continue to further a formalized implementation of the requirements for the use of SOMWS accredited surveyors across the global energy and marine insurance markets.

SOMWS continues to enhance its relationship with the JRC to ensure the accreditation of our members meet the needs of the Lloyd's Underwriting Community thus ensuring that SOMWS remains an effective professional body. This has never been more important, particularly now as we see signs of hope that we may begin our recovery from the grips of the global Covid-19 pandemic.

## **Thanks**

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the those that have continued to support this organization and contributed so greatly to what has been achieved thus far; AqualisBraemar LOC, DNV, Global Maritime, MatthewsDaniel, Sterling Technical Services, the representatives of the Joint Rig Committee, the LMA, and of course our member base. I wish all of you good health and much success.

**James Vavasour**

**SOMWS - Chair**