

# **JAB TALKING POINTS**

## **Seattle Propeller Club Roundtable**

**December 4, 2008**

- **Thanks all around**
- **Welcome guests and dignitaries**
- **20<sup>th</sup> Century**
  - **Advent of Great Circle Arctic Air Route**
  - **Now carries bulk of travelers and air cargo between North America, Asia and Europe**
- **21<sup>st</sup> Century**
  - **Potential for Arctic to serve as major trade route for maritime shipping**
- **Question – Will a trans-Arctic seaway route be as important to maritime commerce as the Great Circle Route is to air transportation?**
- **Question – Will the Arctic be more of a venue for shipping in and out of the Arctic region itself?**
  - **Tourism, local needs, development and bring to market of natural resources, oil, gas, minerals?**
- **Question – Will policies be developed to make the Arctic seaway safe, secure and reliable?**
  - **IMO**
  - **ISO**
  - **IACS**
  - **EPA**
- **Why and what's happening now?**
  - **Read Top of the World Telegraph items**
- **Dynamic situation**
  - **Requires industry/government collaboration to address issues**
- **Some issues**
  - **Design, construction, acquisition, operation and dependability of maritime platforms plying Arctic trade routes**
  - **Expansion of maritime work force to function in such environment**
  - **Development of port, infrastructure, support and maintenance facilities, including SAR capabilities**
  - **Investments and costs associated with all of the above**

- **How does the Maritime Administration fit in here?**
  - Agency’s Principal Mission – promote efficient, safe, secure, environmentally sound maritime commerce and enhance the U.S. merchant marine
  - We are the advocate for industry within government
  - 2007 realignment under Administrator Connaughton reinforced this role
  - Accordingly, we have a considerable role in solving all of the above issues
  
- **Here’s how we are engaged both in and outside of government in the meeting the challenge of Arctic Maritime Trade and Transportation**
  
- **Initiatives**
  - NSF – *Nathaniel B. Palmer* replacement
    - Design/build research vessel with icebreaking capabilities
    - open 90% of Antarctic
    - now 10%
  - *President’s National Security Policy Directive* for the Arctic
    - partner with DOS, NSA, DHS, EPA, DOJ
    - update White House 1994 Directive
    - release next month
  - **Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC)**
    - NSF, DOS, Smithsonian, etal to coordinate Arctic studies in collaboration with state of Alaska, international and indigenous resident interests
  - **Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA)**
    - government overseer for three-year study to be completed
    - published in 2009
    - Ben Ellis to speak a bit about this
  - **University Student Competition**
    - sponsored with SNAME
    - first design competition covered, construction and business plan for “Green” LNG operating in the Barents Sea
    - prizes awarded to students and faculty of Stevens and USMMA at SNAME annual meeting in November
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> to start in January 2009 to cover combo Green icebreaker/cargo platform for servicing Arctic communities and infrastructure development
  - **American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)**
    - joint research and development (R&D)
  - **Conferences/Workshops/Symposia**
    - sponsored 1<sup>st</sup> US international conference and regional discussion such as this to raise awareness among maritime community
    - presented at two international scientific symposia in Russia and Iceland this past year
    - international conference in Washington, DC, in June,
    - now this roundtable in Northwest,
    - April 2009 at Helsinki, Finland
  
- **Conclusion**
  - **Real challenge: Lead or follow**