## 100 more years of success ahead!

## Venice-based Agency Carlo Tonolo fu Matteo celebrated its first century of activities

This year, Venice-based Agency Carlo Tonolo fu Matteo celebrates its first 100 years of activities.

In fact, it is the only ship agency in the port of Venice which, besides having carried out its activities for 100 years, managed to keep the same entrepreneurial guidance for all this time, thanks to its sound family management and con-

inuity.

Established in 1919 by Carlo Tonolo, son of Matteo, after whom it was named, the agency developed hand in hand with the port of Venice and with Porto Marghera, whose construction had just started.

In a few years, Carlo Tonolo fu Matteo became one of the companies which provided the greatest contribution to the development of port activities in Venice, causing leading Italian and international groups to invest in the port, and consequently favouring employment and generating economic wealth; and it also engaged in social work since four generations.

Its owners were among the first members of the Associations and local and national Federations established in the post-war period to regulate the Freight Forwarder and Shipping Agent professions until their legal recognition.

In 1929, the founder was replaced by Davide Tonolo, who was one of the co-founders of Fedespedi, Federagenti, of the Free Port of Venice and of Mariport (Opera S. Maria del Porto Catholic Foundation).

In the Eighties, Carlo Tonolo – the current Chairman of the company, together with his son Paolo, who manages it – was appointed National President of Federagenti for three consecutive terms. "Family members always showed strong professionalism, transparency and cooperation, sharing the same values and goals both in their job and with the community with which the company is dealing", the current managers of the Venetian company explained.

"We have always been resilient and ready to seize opportunities and to innovate our business. Any kind of job faces crises, but the success of familyrun companies which have been active for over 100 years is based on the ability to face every difficulty in a constructive manner".

Carlo Tonolo fu Matteo's know-how is based on the experience gained in all shipping sectors and on years of field-work, representing the major Italian and international companies dealing with ferries, Ro-Ros, cabotage, container lines, bulk cargoes, plant engineering, passengers, military vessels etc...

In the yachting sector, the Venetian company provided its services to the famous yacht Christina belonging to the Greek shipowner Aristotele Onassis, as well as to some of the most beautiful modern ships during their stops in Venice.

"Thanks to our highly qualified internal customs department, operating in synergy with the operational department, we have always been one of the leading providers of services to companies in the oil, chemical, gas and energy sectors,

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and we are also the point of reference for many depots, refineries and industrial plants in Italy, both for daily operations and consultancy.

We can provide qualified and timely services to ships and crews operating in LNG offshore terminals in Italy. Moreover, having taken part and contributed to the development and implementation of projects from start to finish, we have a very special knowledge of the applicable regulations and provisions".

The agency Carlo Tonolo fu Matteo pays great attention to the quality of its services provided to customers. In fact, over 20 years ago, it was the first Venice-based company to obtain an ISO 9001 Quality Certificate System and a Customs Simplifications AEO certificate.

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On top of that, the company's portfolio

and its long-term relations with some of the major Italian and international groups and operators confirm its customers' satisfaction, as well as its professionalism and efficiency.

"Venice became the city that we all know thanks to the hard work of all those who are related to its millenary mercantile and maritime history, and its main source of economic and cultural wealth is still our port. Carlo Tonolo fu Matteo provides professional services to its customers and to shipowners worldwide since 100 years, passing on the tradition of all the Venetian people who, with their work in the maritime sector, contributed to the development of this beautiful and complex city", the descendants of the 100 years old agency concluded.

A.S.

## P&I Club being half centenary in Hellas

The West of England celebrated the 50th Anniversary of its Greek office

Leading mutual marine insurer West of England has celebrated the 50th Anniversary of its Greek office with an evening reception at Balux, Glyfada attended by current and previous Club Members along with representatives from the Board of Directors.

From relatively small beginnings, the





Greek office grew steadily and began offering claims handling services in the late 1970s and nowadays under the leadership of Ian Clarke, Head of Claims & Regional Director (Hellas), the office employs 15 members and handles claims for one quarter of the Club's Membership, being regional claims service centre for Greece, Cyprus, UAE.

Following on from a tradition of having Board Directors from Greece, today the country is represented on the West of England Board by Stelios Ioannou, Vassilis Bacolitsas, Thanassis Mazarakis and Dimitra Dandolos.

The P&I Club's association with the Hellenic shipping community goes back over 50 years; for instance the Los family has been member for over one century. Dealing with all types of ships, the Greek office has been involved with large claims such as the Express Samina and Norman Atlantic and has broken new legal ground with the Aquafaith and Griffon cases.