

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW

Sino-UK Maritime Trade: The Golden Era
Europe's door may only be ajar, but China's is wide open

Opportunity to speak to David Dingle – Chair of Maritime UK and Chairman of Carnival UK (parent company of Cunard and P & O Cruises)

The UK may be concerned at the possible loss of trading opportunities in Europe, as the British government triggers Article 50 to formally begin Brexit proceedings, but a golden era for trade and investment is being heralded in China.

China is currently looking for UK expertise in marine engineering and manufacturing, shipping, ports and business services to help them realise their ambitious objectives to develop the sector.

What's happening when:

Tuesday March 28 – Maritime trade forum, Shanghai

UK and Chinese government officials and business leaders are meeting in Shanghai on Tuesday March 28 (1300 Shanghai time, 2100 UK time) to plan how to build on the trade and investment between the two countries which has soared over the last few years.

To enhance the relationship Maritime UK, led by the body's chair David Dingle, and the UK government's Department for International Trade are joining up with Pudong New Area for a maritime forum. UK Shipping Minister Mark Garnier MP and John Hayes MP will be amongst the expected 150 guests present.

Wednesday March 29 – UK Maritime Showcase, on board Cunard ship, RMS Queen Mary 2

Chinese government officials and business leaders are being invited aboard RMS Queen Mary 2 for a lunch to showcase the UK's shipping capabilities. A tour of the ship will be followed by speeches highlighting all the UK shipping industry has to offer its counterparts in China.

David Dingle, Carnival UK Chairman, and Chair of Maritime UK says: “Today the British Prime Minister is triggering Article 50. More than any industry, maritime has a unique role to play in the global success of Britain following its departure from the European Union and its embracing once again a singular, unfettered role as a global trading leader. We have a unique responsibility to make “Global Britain” a reality, and our being here today demonstrates our commitment to doing so. Whilst leaving the EU the UK will have the opportunity to forge new trade deals including with some of the most dynamic and fastest growing economies. The fact that we stand here today demonstrates our commitment to strengthening the UK-China relationship as we prepare to leave the EU. “

DAVID DINGLE IS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW IN SHANGHAI ON March 28 OR 29 OR IN HONG KONG ON MARCH 30.

CONTACT: SHOUT! COMMUNICATIONS ON 020 7240 9980 OR 020 7 240 8852