

CMAL appoints new Chief Executive

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Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) has announced the appointment of their new Chief Executive Officer, Kevin Hobbs. Kevin, who currently owns a ports, marine logistics and shipping consultancy, has held a number of senior management positions during his 25 year career in the maritime industry and will take over on 1st April 2016 from the current CEO, Tom Docherty, following a short handover.

Kevin was Director at the UK's third biggest port, Milford Haven Port, responsible for all operations at Pembroke Port and Milford Docks, including the ferry terminal, general stevedoring, Wales's largest fishing dock, operation of the marina and Milford Haven Ship Repairers, as well as the estates department, where he, with colleagues, gained outline planning permission for a £70 million regeneration project, which is currently underway. Kevin also has significant experience of ferry operations, starting in 1991 when he joined Merchant Ferries. In 1996, he founded Seatruck Ferries and was CEO and Managing Director from 1996 through to 2008, during which time he took the business from start-up through to becoming a profitable ferry business operating five ferries across the Irish Sea.

In addition, Kevin has provided consultancy and interim management services to clients such as Dublin Port Company, Peel Ports, Stena Line, Poole Harbour Commissioners, and was a non-executive director of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority for seven years. He has been involved in the design and build of a diverse number of vessels including ferries, chemical and product tankers.

Erik Østergaard, CMAL's Chairman, said:

“The Board and staff warmly welcome Kevin to the CMAL team. Kevin brings strong commercial leadership and a wealth of operational management experience, which will be an excellent match for the future projects and challenges faced by CMAL as we continue to provide world class infrastructure support and ground breaking vessel technology across the Clyde and Hebrides.”

Kevin Hobbs said:

“This is a very exciting time in CMAL's history, with an ambitious programme of fleet renewal and harbour development. I look forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead and to meeting and working with the communities that CMAL serves.”

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Media contact:

Christina Kelly, Managing Director, Golley Slater Scotland

Tel: 0141 548 8222 / 0131 220 8787

Email: ckelly@golleyslater.co.uk

Notes to editors

1. CMAL own property at piers and harbours at more than 24 locations throughout Scotland and is embarking on a programme of investment and improvements, which will create better facilities.
2. In addition to its pier and harbour facilities, CMAL owns 31 ferries and lease one further ferry. All 32 vessels are leased to CalMac Ferries Ltd for use on ferry services on the Clyde and Hebrides. In addition, three ferries are currently under construction.
3. CMAL is a publicly owned company with Scottish Ministers as the sole shareholder.
4. For more information about CMAL visit: www.cmassets.co.uk