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***Applied Weather Technology Hosts Its First Ship Operations
Best Practices Workshop for Global Maritime Industry in Beijing,
Receives Accolades from Attendees and Panelists***

Panel of Distinguished Maritime Arbitrators and Experts Provided Advice to Ship Charterers and Owners about Best Practices in Managing Ship Operational Disputes and Understanding Charter Party Agreements

Sunnyvale, Calif. and Beijing – December 17, 2008 – Applied Weather Technology (AWT), (www.awtworldwide.com), the global leader providing both shore-based and on-board ship routing services, today announced the successful outcome of its first international ship operations best practice workshops held in Beijing, where ship charterers and ship owners met with industry-renowned maritime arbitrators and other maritime experts with the goal of mitigating ship operational disputes and better understanding charter party disputes. In the wake of the workshops, AWT is receiving numerous accolades from attendees and panelists about this unprecedented event.

The “Sharpen Your Operations” workshops included two separate sessions over two days. The workshops were attended by approximately 150 ship operators, charterers and ship owners, providing them with the opportunity to network and discuss best practices. Attendees could also learn from key maritime arbitrators responsible for deciding the outcomes of charter party disputes, as well as other legal and technical maritime experts.

“We at Sinochart are pleased to have so many experts attending the workshop, including top people from the London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA), the world’s biggest and leading maritime arbitration association, and senior solicitors,” said Shi Yijun, Deputy General Manager of China National Chartering Corp. “I firmly believe that this

workshop will be very helpful to our understanding of the charter party agreements and the latest developments in maritime arbitration.”

“AWT did a great job in assembling well-known, well-respected and highly sought-after leaders in the London and international maritime arbitration circuit and in bringing together a hugely diverse body of ship owners, charterers and operators in Beijing,” said Brian Cushing, UK manager for Braemar Falconer Ltd., and a panelist at the event. “It was not just a unique opportunity to exchange views and opinions with the delegates, but also a unique opportunity to hear and absorb the knowledge imparted by my fellow panelists.”

“I appreciate AWT investing resources in raising the knowledge base in shipping operations,” said Shengbo from Glory Wealth Shipping, a large ship operator based in Singapore. “AWT's focus on long-term relationships is one of the many reasons that I like AWT.”

“Allow me to thank AWT on behalf of Nepa HK for inviting us to this workshop, which was focused on operational and legal issues facing present-day commercial shipping,” said Captain Sastry, operations manager of Nepa Shipping Agency, Hong Kong, a dry bulk ship charterer. “The workshop was well-prepared and well-executed, and I am sure everyone in attendance has taken back something useful to their business. This seminar shows the commitment AWT has for the global maritime industry.”

“We could not have been more pleased with the high quality of the panelists, the depth of the dialogue, and with the promise of better cooperation and collaboration that resulted from this workshop,” stated AWT president and CEO Skip Vaccarello. “We look forward to hosting events of this kind in the future.”

AWT convened the meetings, held October 29 and 30, in order to advance the maritime industry's efforts to arrive at best practices in resolving ship operational disputes. AWT has earned a solid reputation among ship owners, operators, charterers, and maritime arbitrators, all of whom rely upon AWT reports and data because they are unbiased and accurate.

Panelists at the workshop included:

John Tsatsas, current president of the LMAA, a maritime arbitrator and consultant whose invaluable insight comes from his unmatched experience of nearly four decades in ship management, operations, chartering, and sale and purchase.

Clive Aston, a distinguished maritime arbitrator, who has extensive experience in a wide range of maritime and commercial disputes since 1988, drawing from his significant experience in the shipping industry in which he is also managing director of a specialist consultancy company.

Brian A. Cushing, UK manager for Braemar Falconer, Ltd., a master mariner and distinguished marine surveyor with extensive worldwide experience as an expert witness in maritime arbitration and court hearings in the UK, Middle East and USA.

Wang Hongyu, partner of the law firm, Wang Jing & Co., a lawyer dedicated to the study and resolution of disputes in maritime and trade law.

Allen Webb, AWT Europe Chairman, a former mariner who has spent his entire career in the maritime industry and the past 30 years specifically in ship routing.

George Schlinkert, Senior VP of Operations, AWT, who has devoted all 25 years of his scientific career to ship routing.

At the conclusion of the workshop, Petty Leung, managing director of AWT Hong Kong commented, "We recognize the importance of assembling a ground-breaking workshop of this kind, and we were pleased with the high level of content, the caliber of panelists and enhanced learning of the attendees."

About AWT

AWT (www.awtworldwide.com) is the leading provider of fleet optimization services, ship routing services and onboard voyage management software to ship owners, operators and charterers seeking the safest and most efficient routes for their fleets. Unlike companies that provide weather services for multiple industries, or companies which only offer onboard weather software, AWT is staffed by world-renown experts in ship

routing, meteorology, IT, maritime science and former mariners who are focused solely on the maritime industry. Using the most sophisticated technology available, AWT routes more ships per month than any other company. Its superior customer service and integrity have made AWT the most trusted fleet optimization provider in the maritime industry. Founded in 1996, AWT is privately held and headquartered in Sunnyvale, California with worldwide offices located in the UK, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Korea, Germany, New York, and New Jersey. More information is available at www.awtworldwide.com or by calling 1-408-731-8600.

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