



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2023 BIC Scholarship Award Winners announced

The winners of the 2023 BIC Scholarship awards have been announced.

The scholarship program was launched in 2015 to help support the container industry's leaders of tomorrow and to encourage continued focus on safety, security, standardization and sustainability in the intermodal container industry. Eligibility extends to university and maritime academy students enrolled in a program related to container transportation. Candidates were judged on the basis of academic achievement as well as an essay related to container safety, security, standardization or sustainability.

8 Awards were awarded in 2023:

Here are the undergraduate winners for 2023:



Celine Chua, a final-year undergraduate at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Maritime Studies with a Second Major in Business (International Trading Specialisation). The Maritime Studies programme has provided her with a deeper understanding of the shipping industry, including container trade, port operations, logistics, sustainability, maritime strategy, and maritime technology. She is a Dean's List recipient and her research interests lie in digital resources, information coordination, green technology innovation, and sustainable performance in maritime. Celine serves as Vice-President (Academic) of the URECA Undergraduate Research Club and has a first-author publication in Transport Policy Journal. Her past internship experiences include working in three different divisions at Jurong Port. Upon graduation, she will be interning at the Ministry of Trade and Industry in June 2024 before pursuing the Juris Doctor Law



Miguel Chana Fernández is a 21-year-old student in Escuela Superior de Marina Civil, Spain. He has always been very impressed with huge ships, and everything related to them. In addition, one of Miguel's passions is to visit different countries and get to know people from other cultures. For these reasons, a few years ago Miguel decided to start his nautical studies in the north of Spain, moving away from home in order to fulfil a dream. Nowadays, he is completing his cadetship and feeling very excited with the idea of becoming a Captain in the future.



Soufiane Zakri is a 3rd year student at the Hochschule Bremen-City University of Applied Sciences, where he is pursuing a bachelor degree in International Shipping and Chartering.

Since his childhood, he has always harbored a deep fascination with the maritime industry, and this fascination shaped his life and career path, which he never regretted. He hopes that one day, in the future, he will be able to leave a lasting footprint within the maritime industry.



Sarah Long is a penultimate student undertaking a bachelor's in Nanyang Technological University Maritime Studies, specialising in International Trade. She is captivated by the opportunities for the industry to adapt to the increasing importance of decarbonisation, capitalize on such opportunities and unlock the potential of integrating sustainability into their business operations. She wishes to continue exploring and reviewing the safety and sustainability of containerization as well as supply chain in her final year project.

Here are the graduate winners for 2023:



Giovanni Rudmann is a first year student in the Maritime and Port Economics and Management master's degree course. He is a top 5% student. He has a strong interest for the transport industry, demonstrated not only in his studies but also in his participation in events organised by port stakeholders outside academia.



Alysious Forbie,

My name is Alysious Forbie from Sierra Leone, I am 36 years old. I studied Maritime Law & Policy because of my strong passion to contribute in maritime management affairs such as;
Development of National and International Maritime practices that support marine life. Currently I am working with Sierra Leone Maritime Administration as Human Resource Quality Assurance & Compliance Manager.

Commandant Rahul Lodhi is a serving officer of Indian Coast Guard with 13 plus years of experience in various operational billets. The officer has also commanded a Fast Patrol Vessel of the Indian Coast Guard during his tenure. Rahul completed his Master's in Maritime Affairs with specialisation in Maritime Law and Policy in 2023 and graduated as top of the class from the World Maritime University, Malmö, Sweden. He is the recipient of prestigious Chancellor's Medal for the year 2023 along with various other awards. He is passionate about the maritime law and policy processes and has done exceptionally well during his stay at university. He is hopeful to be an instrumental tool in his organisation after completion of masters and aspires to spread the knowledge he has acquired during his stay at WMU. The officer has returned to his parent organisation and is serving his nation with pride as before.





Ashraf Mahmud holds an MSc in Maritime Affairs with a specialization in Shipping Management and Logistics from the World Maritime University (WMU) (2023). He has been with the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) for over five years, currently in the role of Assistant General Manager (AGM). His academic background includes a Bachelor's and Master's in Economics from the National University of Bangladesh, and he brings over three years of experience from a state-owned commercial bank. A fellow of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), Ashraf combines his expertise in commercial shipping strategy with a growing interest in sustainable shipping, influenced by his tenure in state-affiliated organizations.

The BIC wishes to congratulate the 2023 winners and to thank all this year's candidates for their submissions.

About the BIC: Founded in 1933 as a neutral, non-profit, international organization, the BIC promotes the safe, secure and sustainable expansion of containerization and intermodal transportation. Publisher of the BIC Code Register since 1970, the BIC was appointed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in 1972 as the industry's global container prefix registry, a role further endorsed by international customs conventions. The BIC has over 2600 container-operating members in 125 countries. The BIC's new BoxTech Technical Characteristics Database allows for efficient sharing of container characteristics, including tare weights for SOLAS VGM declarations.

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