

## **Press Release**

# Florian Bleikamp strengthens the management team at HGK Dry Shipping

Duisburg, 4 June 2024 – Since the beginning of June Florian Bleikamp is the new Managing Director at HGK Dry Shipping and supports the existing management team, consisting of Andreas Lemme and the CEO, Steffen Bauer. European dry shipping is undergoing a process of fundamental change. Flows of goods in particular, which are changing as part of the energy revolution, need to be adapted to make this business viable for the future – and the experienced logistics manager is set to focus on this issue. Another key task for Florian Bleikamp will involve providing greater integration for all dry shipping activities along the German and European waterways.

His extensive experience in the shipping sector in many different management positions qualify Florian Bleikamp for his new position. He has been Managing Director of Niedersächsische Verfrachtungsgesellschaft since February 2019 and has also been working for BeKa HGK, a specialist chartering company in the dry shipping sector, since the beginning of this year.

From 2016 onwards, he managed the canal shipping division at HGK Dry Shipping and acquired extensive insight into the network of canals in Central European inland shipping in this way. He had also been responsible for the operational business of Rhine shipping since 2023 as part of the overall signatory powers entrusted to him through this position. "Florian Bleikamp has made a crucial contribution to the successful orientation and business development of our dry shipping operations. Thanks to his outstanding management skills and his exceptionally high degree of expertise in establishing strategic customer relations, we've been able to consolidate significant partnerships. It's a real benefit for us to involve him in the management of HGK Dry Shipping and we're convinced that we'll be able to successfully continue the course that we've adopted as we work together," says Steffen Bauer, the CEO of HGK Shipping.

In the past, Florian Bleikamp made his contribution towards implementing customers' individualised supply chain concepts, one of which also involves the latest addition to the fleet, one of the most modern dry cargo vessels in Europe. The new Managing Director is approaching his upcoming task with a sense of confidence. "In my new role, while successfully continuing to manage the existing business, I want to also systematically help shape the future topics at HGK Dry Shipping."

The management of HGK Dry Shipping agrees that they particularly need to consider the changes in the sector with a view to the transformation of flows of goods in dry shipping and the aspects raised by the energy and mobility revolution. They also plan to focus on bringing together all the operational activities along the canal networks and river regions on the rivers Rhine, Mosel and Danube in Germany and the Benelux countries.



**Caption:** Florian Bleikamp, whose future main tasks will include adapting the business model to new freight flows in dry shipping, takes on additional management responsibility as Managing Director of HGK Dry Shipping. (Copyright: HGK Shipping)

### Contact details:

Would you like some more information? You can contact the HGK spokesperson, Christian Lorenz, on +49 221 / 390 11 90 or send an e-mail to: <u>lorenzc@hgk.de</u>.

#### About the HGK Group:

Häfen und Güterverkehr Köln AG (HGK) is the logistics company within the City of Cologne's public utilities group. Formerly just a port operator, HGK has developed into a group that provides integrated transport and logistics services with operations across Europe. Structured in five divisions, Logistics & Intermodal, Shipping, Rail Operations, Infrastructure & Maintenance and Real Estate, the HGK Group operates the largest inland waterway port network in Germany, one of the largest private railway companies for transporting cargo, specialist logistics firms and terminals as well as its own railway network and workshops for railway goods traffic through its subsidiaries and holding companies. HGK Shipping GmbH is the largest inland waterway shipping company in Europe.

### About the HGK Shipping division:

HGK Shipping is part of Häfen und Güterverkehr Köln AG. Its fleet comprises about 350 vessels, including owner-operated ships. The spectrum of goods transported ranges from liquid chemical products and liquefied gases to dry goods and even break-bulk cargo.