

■ a view on the market ■ SEAVIEW



Cielo di D'Italia - Courtesy of d'Amico Group

Cesare d'Amico

An environmentally conscious company built on family values

Business in the shipping industry has changed, sometimes I look back at the old days with a fondness, the days before d'Amico became an international business with the inherent complexities that brings. Change is a positive thing and by embracing change d'Amico is becoming a leading operator of dry cargo and tankers, but we still try to keep that "family business" atmosphere.

Apart from that family ethos of running a business, our success is also due to the quality of our managers and general staff ashore and offshore. We give them both authority and autonomy to run the company as they see fit. Now that might appear to be unusual for a family business but to my mind it's the only way to run an international business, some control must be relinquished.

In our company we all share the same values and have a very clear vision of where we want to take d'Amico in future. Part of that vision is a strong corporate social responsibility with a particularly strong emphasis on protecting the environment and improving the overall safety levels within our business

I am very keen to develop a culture within the company where we respect the sea. Embedding that culture takes a lot of effort but we must not compromise when we are talking about the environment. We are constantly working to have a very modern fleet and be compliant with all of the latest environmental standards: fleet efficiency, to us, means not only to have low fuel consumption of our vessels. There have been huge changes in the maritime industry to address the issue of fuel consumption and things have certainly improved enormously over the last 20 years as we have moved away from bunker fuel. The industry as a whole has come a long way. By being committed to the environment as an industry we can improve our operations and the economy of our vessels, so it's a win-win situation.

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BIOGRAPHY

Cesare d'Amico graduated in 1982 in Economics at La Sapienza, Rome. He joined the family owned company, d'Amico Società di Navigazione S.p.A., in 1976 in the technical department and in 1978 he became general manager of the liner services.

In 1982 he was appointed Chief Executive Officer of d'Amico Società di Navigazione S.p.A., role that he currently holds.

In 1993 he launched the d'Amico Group's bulk activity. In 1997 he played a prominent role in the privatisation of Italia di Navigazione S.p.A., a public company, where he then was nominated chief executive officer, a role maintained until the company was sold. Since 1997 he has played a leading role in the development of the activities of d'Amico Dry Limited and on May 2007 he took part to the quotation of the tanker business unit (d'Amico International Shipping S.A.) at the STAR segment of the Italian Stock Exchange.

In 2011 Mr. d'Amico has been appointed President of the Fondazione ITS Caboto (Gaeta, Italy) an advanced technical education school. He currently is member of the board of directors of several companies of the d'Amico Group and is also involved in a number of companies and international associations, including, as director, the listed company Tamburi Investment Partners S.p.A., The Standard Club Europe Ltd, and the Italian Shipowners Association.



Cielo di Gaeta - Courtesy of d'Amico Group

Over 50% of our ships are fuelled using refined oil products and not bunker oil so they are less polluting. An efficient, modern, compliant fleet operated by professional seafarers is the key to running a successful business but everybody must be committed to protecting the environment and the sea.

Since 2012 we started our last important investment in the renewal of our fleet. And we have made sure that all new vessels comply to all the latest rules and regulations, particularly emissions.

We have also invested in the education of our seafarers. In fact, I am personally running a school for young people who wish to become officers, you might say we are training the next generation of seafarers. An important part of that training is instilling a respect for the environment together with the efficient operation of the vessel.

I'm very proud of the fact that the industry has recognised our approach. A very strong endorsement of our attitude towards the environment and efficient operation of vessels can be seen by the fact that [d'Amico](#) has been awarded the "Green Shipowner of the Year" 2016 award by Informa. This to me confirms that we are doing things the right way.

I think another important point worth stressing is that [d'Amico](#) will never give up its culture of directly managing the vessel. Some owners have decided to give up the management of the vessel or in some cases give up part of the management of the vessel thereby losing control. Even in the difficult business environment of the 90's we decided to maintain control of the vessels because once you give up control you no longer have your hands on the levers of efficient operation. It is that control that allows us to operate efficiently today while respecting the environment.

We are constantly looking to provide the right vessels to our charter customers on a long-term basis in order to enhance the stability of our business, this is particularly true of our tanker business and it also applies to dry storage. Today customers want a shipping line that is reliable, that is flexible and financially strong. In the past been financially strong was not so important but today that is changed.

RINA have been a great partner to [d'Amico](#). One of the great advantages of working with RINA is that they are able to offer their great experience, making it suitable with our company needs. We are currently working on two projects; CBM conditioned based maintenance and an electronic daily sounding log integrated with ORB.

Condition based maintenance is a valuable tool for enhanced cost efficiency, ensuring that maintenance personnel minimise system downtime and maximise product life-cycle.

And moving to a paperless system by creating an electronic daily sounding log is a great example of utilising digital technology to meet operational rules. We value RINA's input in these projects and look forward to a long and beneficial business relationship.

