



## **KLM brings together the country's major players at 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Day to highlight the importance of Marine & Offshore Business**

Air France and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Day in Athens, on 13 April 2022, bringing together more than a hundred high ranked professionals from the Marine and Offshore Business. The dynamic role and the importance of Maritime Segment, as well as their correlation and contribution to economic growth were presented during this event. KLM President & CEO Pieter Elbers attended the event, highlighting the importance of international shipping and the strong presence of the Greek shipping industry, as well as their outstanding support during COVID. It is the first time that the airline industry is hosting a marine event in Greece; the intention is to organize this as a recurring event in coming years. *"Greece and Cyprus represent the most important markets for us in terms of Marine and Offshore traffic. The COVID pandemic has led to a backlog of shipping crew to be transported and a growth in the worldwide shipment of goods via air and sea. This has resulted in a significant increase of the Marine business. In challenging times, more than ever, the M & O traffic has been of utmost importance for us"*, said KLM President & CEO, Pieter Elbers.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Day consisted of two sessions. During the morning session, professionals and specialists from the wider shipping industry thoroughly presented the definition, vision, current situation and future of the industry. In the evening, the teams of Air France and KLM in partnership with Delta Air Lines hosted a cocktail reception expressing their appreciation to top Marine & Offshore Companies and Shipping Trade Partners for their long-time commitment.

*"Air France and KLM operate around the world, offering an extended network and a vast choice of destinations, continually expanding. We have been working closely with all marine and shipping sector for many years and have established incredibly strong bonds with them, in Greece and worldwide. Our aim is to continue to deliver for the years to come our services and this Marine Day is an opportunity for us to express our appreciation to the Shipping Community for their trust, support and collaboration over the years"* said Mr. Yiannis Pantazopoulos, Regional Manager Air France-KLM for Greece, Cyprus and Turkey.

For more information: [www.marineday-afkl.com](http://www.marineday-afkl.com)

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**About KLM Royal Dutch Airlines**

For over a century, KLM has been a pioneer in the airline industry. KLM is the oldest airline still operating under its original name and aims to be the leading European network carrier in customer centricity, efficiency and sustainability. The KLM network connects the Netherlands with all of the world's key economic regions and is a powerful engine driving the Dutch economy.

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines is part of the Air France–KLM Group. KLM is also a member of the global SkyTeam Alliance, which has 19 member airlines.

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