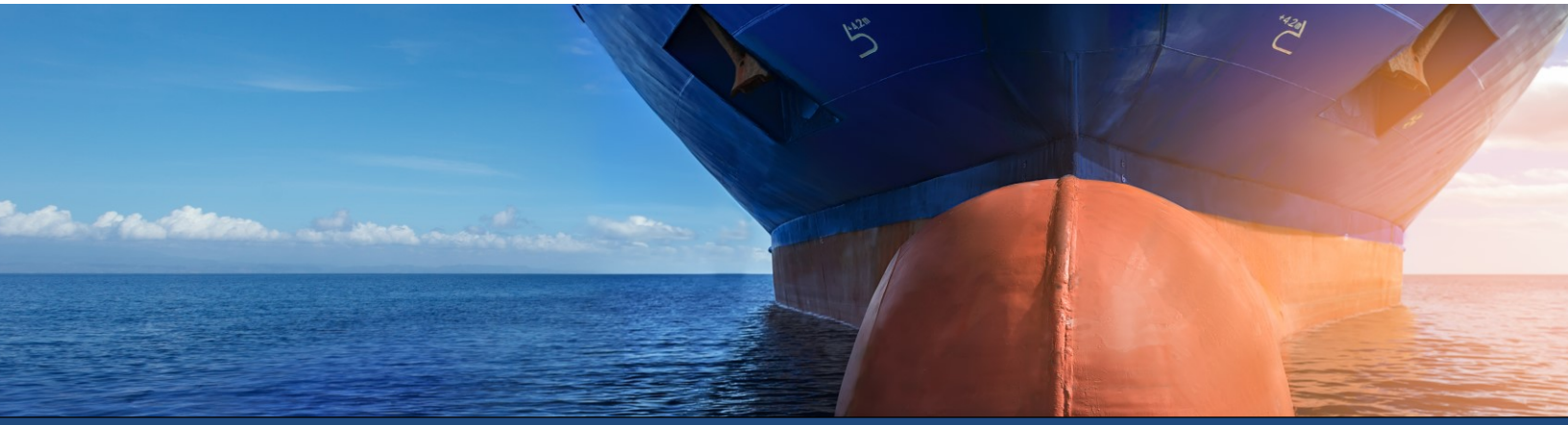


BILLS OF LADING ONLINE SEMINAR

Legal Principles, Commercial Functions and Practical Claims

THE SEMINAR AT A GLANCE

Bills of Lading are central to international shipping, serving important contractual, commercial and documentary functions. This practical programme examines the Bill of Lading, from issuance and transfer to cargo delivery, liability and claims, and explains the legal risks that arise in everyday maritime operations.

AIM & LEARNING OUTCOMES

The seminar aims to develop a clear understanding of the legal principles and commercial use of Bills of Lading, combining regulatory frameworks, industry practice and realistic claims scenarios.

- Understand the legal functions, types and contractual status of Bills of Lading.
- Recognise risks associated with issuance, endorsement, delivery and documentary discrepancies.
- Apply key principles of cargo liability, defences, limitations and time bars.
- Approach cargo claims and disputes with greater commercial and legal confidence.

PROGRAMME | FOUR INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

SESSION 1 | Legal Nature and Functions of Bills of Lading

- The three traditional functions: receipt for goods, evidence of a carriage contract, and document of title
- Types of Bills of Lading, identification of the contractual carrier, and comparison with sea waybills
- The relationship between Bills of Lading and charterparties

SESSION 2 | Issuance, Transfer and Delivery of Cargo

- Authority to issue and sign; statements concerning cargo quantity and apparent condition
- Clean and claused Bills of Lading; endorsement, transfer and rights of lawful holders
- Delivery without original Bills, letters of indemnity (LOIs), misdelivery and fraudulent documents
- Allocation of risks and liabilities among owners, charterers and carriers

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SESSION 3 | Carrier's Obligations, Cargo Liability and Claims

- Hague and Hague - Visby Rules; seaworthiness and cargo care obligations
- Exceptions and defences, limitation of liability and time bars
- Cargo shortages, contamination, damage and documentary discrepancies
- Investigation, evidence gathering and practical handling of cargo claims

SESSION 4 | Advanced Legal Issues and Contemporary Developments

- Charterparty terms incorporated into Bills of Lading; jurisdiction and arbitration clauses
- Documentary fraud and associated risk management
- Electronic Bills of Lading and the Electronic Trade Documents Act 2023
- Practical claims-management guidance and a comprehensive case-study exercise

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators and charterers
- Chartering, post-fixture, operations and commercial personnel
- Claims handlers, demurrage teams, maritime lawyers and legal advisers
- Marine insurers, P&I professionals, commodity traders and shipping documentation teams

SEMINAR DETAILS

Dates	7, 9, 14 & 16 December 2026
Schedule	19:30 - 21:30 (Athens time, GMT +2)
Duration	4 online sessions · 8 training hours
Delivery	Live, instructor-led online training
Language	English
Fees	400 EUR (Inlc. Learning materials) ICS Members are entitled to a 20% discount.

TRAINER

GEORGIA BOTSIOU

Maritime legal and insurance professional | Shipping law and claims specialist

Georgia Botsiou has extensive experience in maritime legal, commercial and insurance matters, including charterparty disputes, cargo claims, arbitration, litigation and contractual risk. Her industry-focused teaching combines legal principles with practical examples from shipping operations and claims handling.