A new Deputy Master and Executive Chairman for Trinity House

Captain Ian McNaught has been appointed Deputy Master of the Corporation of Trinity House and Executive Chairman of the Lighthouse Authority. He succeeds Rear-Admiral Sir Jeremy de Halpert who will stand down towards the end of the year.

Captain McNaught has 40 years’ maritime experience and is presently serving as Master with Seabourn Cruises. He has been an employee of Cunard, owner of some of the most famous cruise liners in the world, since 1987 when he joined the Queen Elizabeth 2 as a Second Officer. He rapidly rose through the ranks and was Master of the luxury cruise ship Sea Goddess 1, and more recently held command of the QE2 until the vessel was paid off in November 2008.

Commenting on his appointment, Captain McNaught said, “Having spent nearly 40 years at sea, my selection as Deputy Master of Trinity House is the pinnacle of a successful career as a Master Mariner. It provides me with an opportunity to lead the principal maritime fraternity and institution in the country for the benefit of Maritime Britain, the shipping industry, and all the seagoing community. There is, I believe, no greater opportunity than this, to use all my maritime experience and expertise gathered during my career at sea”.

In the position of Executive Chairman of Trinity House, Captain McNaught will lead the General Lighthouse Authority responsible for the safe navigation of some of the world’s busiest shipping lanes and pioneers of research in to new technologies to improve the effectiveness and efficiencies of the aids to navigation it provides. As Deputy Master of the Corporation of Trinity House he will be responsible for the activities of the UK’s largest endowed maritime charity.

Captain McNaught will join Trinity House in September 2011.

Trinity House is the General Lighthouse Authority (GLA) for England and Wales, with responsibility for nearly 600 aids to navigation, from traditional aids such as lighthouses, buoys and beacons to the latest satellite navigation technology. In addition it inspects over 10,000 local aids to navigation provided by port and harbour authorities, and those positioned on offshore structures. Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1514, the Corporation is also a major maritime charity, wholly funded by its endowments. The Corporation spends around £4million each year on
its charitable activities including welfare of mariners, education and training, and the promotion of safety at sea. It is also a Deep Sea Pilotage Authority.