

carus monthly newsletter

SPECIAL EDITION

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Alejandro
Aznar

**Carus
Excellence
Award 2021**

Alejandro Aznar is presented with Carus Excellence Award 2021 for his Excellence in dedication to the Spanish and European maritime sector.

The award will take place, as usual, at the gala dinner of the General Assembly of the Association of Spanish Shipowners ANAVE, which will be held on **July 20 at the Hotel Wellington Madrid.**

Since 2012 Carus has hosted its **Carus Excellence Awards in Spain.** The ceremony takes place in the gardens of the Hotel Ritz Madrid (now at the Hotel Wellington Madrid) in the months of June/July each year to coincide with the General Assembly of the Spanish Shipowners' Association ANAVE, of which **Carus is an Associate Member and Sponsor.**



Alejandro Aznar during the 2018 General Assembly

Alejandro Aznar Sainz was born in Madrid in 1961 and has a degree in Economic and Business Sciences (American College, Leysin 1983), and an MBA from the Instituto de Empresa (Madrid 1984).

Belonging to one of Bilbao's most traditional families, founder of "Naviera Sota y Aznar" that was created in Bilbao in 1906, Alejandro Aznar has developed his professional activity mainly in the shipping sector. Currently, he is **President of the Ibaizabal Group**, the company that owns one of the largest fleets of bulk carriers and oil tankers in Spain. He is also President of the Spanish Shipowners' Association —ANAVE, President of the Spanish Maritime Cluster, and

Honorary President of the Royal Academy of the Sea.

In 2006 he was awarded as the best Basque businessman, as well and in 2019 he was awarded the **Grand Cross of Naval Merit with distinctive White** by His Majesty King Felipe VI, at the proposal of the Ministry of Defense, and after deliberation by the Council of Ministers.

Apart from the shipping sector, he is also President of "Vinos de los Herederos del Marqués de Riscal", and the regional Advisory Council of BBVA for the North Zone.

Alejandro Aznar has always remarked that his, **"is the story of a business family, rather than a family business."**



Alejandro Aznar
President of Ibaizabal Group

This award is intended solely to highlight the excellence and dedication to the maritime sector, and is awarded to **the most outstanding professionals** in this regard.

Previous editions of the Carus Excellence were awarded to the President of ECSA and Suardiaz Group, Mr. Juan Riva, and to the President of Balearia Group, Mr. Adolfo Utor. The Carus edition of the Excellence Award 2014 went to the Director General of Spanish Merchant Marine, Mr. Rafael Rodriguez Valero. And the latest Carus Excellence Award went to: Mr. Vicente Boluda — President of Boluda Corporation and Carus Excellence Award 2015; Mr. Emanuele Grimaldi —CEO of Grimaldi Group and Carus Excellence Award 2016; Mr. Luis Miguel Sousa —CEO of Sousa Group and Carus Excellence Award 2017; D. Antonio Armas — President of Naviera Armas and Trasmediterranea, and Carus Excellence Award 2018; Mr. Mike Corrigan —CEO of Interferry and Carus Excellence Award 2019; and Mr. Nils-Erik Eklund, Member of The Board of Directors of Viking Line since 1997, and President and CEO of Viking Line from 1990 to 2010.



GRUPO IBAIZABAL

Interview with **Alejandro Aznar**

An interview with our award-winning Alejandro Aznar about the past, present, and future of **Grupo Ibaizabal**, which he chairs.

Carus: What could be considered the beginning of the Aznar family in the maritime business?

Mr. Aznar: The origins of the Aznar family in the maritime business date back to 1861. It is a story that was born with my great-great-grandfather Eduardo and that, despite the many vicissitudes of him, reaches today. He started as a Shipbroker and from there to

chartering vessels, a mining business (in which we still continue today), and then to his own shipping companies.

The first was the Compañía Bilbaína de Navegación from 1882. Then others would come and in 1906 the Naviera Sota y Aznar, Ibaizabal, Naviera Vascongada Bilbaína, etc. At the beginning of the 20th century, its shipping group was among the top 15 in the world.

Carus: What can you tell us about the present, especially with such a difficult year in every way?

Mr. Aznar: Today the Ibaizabal group remains dedicated to maritime transport, port towing, offshore and port services, yacht repair shipyard, etc.

The group's philosophy is sustained growth, remaining profitable in a business as volatile as maritime, with a prudent debt policy. Thanks to this policy, we have managed to

overcome a year as difficult as 2020 with financial health and good results.

Carus: And the future?

Mr. Aznar: The solid foundations built in recent decades, and the great team of people that makes up the group, allow us to approach the future with optimism and continue diversifying in any activity related to the sea. Hopefully my children will be 200 years old in the maritime world.



GRUPO IBAIZABAL

A night photograph of the Hotel Wellington in Madrid. The building is a multi-story structure with a prominent corner section. The top of the building features a large, illuminated sign that reads "Hotel Wellington". The corner section has a balcony with blue lighting. The building is decorated with numerous warm white lights, particularly on the corner section. The sky is dark blue.

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**EXCELLENCE
AWARD 2021**

HOTEL WELLINGTON
MADRID
20.JULY.2021

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

EXCELLENCE AWARD 2021

AGENDA

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CARUS EXCELLENCE AWARD 2021 GENERAL ASSEMBLY - ANAVE Spanish Shipowners' Association

The Spanish Shipowners' Association will hold its annual General Assembly on July 20th 2021, with a Cocktail and a Gala Lunch at the Hotel Wellington Madrid.

The event is co-sponsored by Carus, ANAVE associate member, and will be attended by the Spanish shipowners, maritime and port authorities. There will also be a representation of European maritime delegates, and is scheduled for closure by the Spanish Minister for Transport.

In that event also will be awarded the CARUS EXCELLENCE 2021, and this year nominated unanimously by the Board of Carus Spain, is Mr. Alejandro Aznar, Presidente of Ibaizabal Group and Presidente of ANAVE.

AGENDA - Hotel Wellington Madrid, July 20th, 2021:

11.00-12.15 h.

ANAVE Board Meeting (Members Only)

12.30-13.15 h.

ANAVE General Assembly (Members Only)

13.15-14.00 h.

Cocktail (Guests Only)

14.00-14.15 h.

Carus Excellence Award Ceremony - 2021 Edition

Awarded:

Mr. Alejandro Aznar

President of Ibaizabal Group and President of ANAVE

For his Excellence in dedication to the Spanish and European maritime sector.

14.15 h.

Gala Lunch (Guests Only)

Closing Luncheon - Speeches:

President of ANAVE

Spanish Minister of Transport

Please feel free to contact us if you need any further information.



Hotel Wellington



In Memoriam
Keith Sherwood
—Our Eternal Sales Director

Rest in Peace Dear Friend

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It is with a full and heavy heart that I share this sad news about our dear friend and colleague Keith Sherwood.

After a courageous and fierce fight with cancer, he left us last in April.

I learnt to know Keith as a competitor back in the early days of the century, and when we both ended up at Anite we became close friends. Keith has been a key player for Carus' success and I will be eternally grateful for the role he has played in our success. I just wish our journey together could have been longer.

Keith and I have travelled the world together for Carus and shared so many beers and laughs,

really enjoying each other's company and met so many nice people. I will never forget these days with Keith, and all the effort he has put in to get some good manners into me – with limited success.

Keith will leave a big void, but he has done his part in making the world a better place although his time got cut short. There is so much more one could say, but we all have our individual memories of this great guy to cherish.

My thoughts are with his wife Sue, daughter Lauren and of course his grandson Jack who brought him so much joy and pride!

Thank-you Keith for everything!
Anders Rundberg —CEO of Carus



**The Carus Team at
Interferry 2017, Split
(Croatia)**

Find IT for the Ferry industry



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