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Since 2012 Carus has hosted its Carus Excellence Awards in Spain. The ceremony takes place in the month of June each year to coincide with the General Assembly of the Spanish Shipowners' Association —ANAVE, of which Carus is an Associate Member and main Sponsor.

The ceremony was attended by Anders Rundberg, CEO, and John Bertell, Director of Sales, both of Carus, following two years of absence due to the pandemic. The event was conducted as usual by Jose Rodríguez, Carus representative and partner, who presented two awards this year: one for 2021 (postponed due to COVID) which went to Nils-Erik Eklund, and the 2022 award which went to Christophe Mathieu.





The event began with a speech by Jose Rodríguez. In his speech, he remembered 2018's ANAVE prize winner, Don Antonio Armas, President of the Armas Group, who recently passed away.

Jose went on to highlight the overwhelming numbers that make Carus a leader in the industry; 30 million passengers and more than 5 million vehicles annually get booked through CarRes, Carus' reservation system). And this effort is achieved by the dedicated work of those who are part of the Carus family. Now present in 18 countries, Carus originates from the Island of Aland

Finally, and after brief biographical notes on each of the winners, the awards were presented to Nils-Erik Eklund by Anders Rundberg, and to Christophe Mathieu by John Bertell



Presenting the Carus Excellence Award 2020 to Nils-Erik Eklund and 2022 to Christophe Mathieu

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 General Director 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; 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, and Carus Excellence Award 2020; and Mr. Alejandro Aznar, President of Ibaizabal Group, President of ANAVE (2015-2021), and Carus Excellence Award 2021.





Nils-Erik Eklund —Carus Excellence Award 2020

For his Excellency in the dedication and contribution to the maritime and ferry industry worldwide.

Nils-Erik Eklund is Member of The Board of Directors of Viking Line since 1997 and also a member of the Board of Directors of Interferry since 2008, the trade association that represents the worldwide industry. Nils-Erik was president and CEO of Viking Line from 1990 to 2010. During his entire career of four decades he has pioneered the work to reduce the environmental impacts of the transport of passengers and freight at sea. During his tenure as CEO, Viking Line was one of the first shipping companies in the world to implement the International Safety Management Code. Also Viking Line was successful in winning the Award of the European Foundation for Quality Management related to large companies in Finland.



Christophe Mathieu —Carus Excellence Award 2022

For his Excellency in the dedication to the maritime sector particularly to ferry industry.

Christophe Mathieu was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Brittany Ferries in April 2016. He has worked with Brittany Ferries since 1992 in various roles including work in the Finance, Operation, Marketing and Revenue Management Departments, Group Business Controller, Strategic Development Director, Group Strategy & Commercial Director and Member of the Executive Board. He is also a member of the Interferry Board since 2010, and Interferry Chairman 2020/22. On Brittany's 50th anniversary this year, he wanted to recognize the importance of the Spanish market, baptizing 3 of his most efficient and modern boats, the e-flexers, with the names of: GALICIA, SALAMANCA, and SANTOÑA.













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Your Answer!