



# Seasonal Greetings



Dear friends,

As 2021 draws to a close I would like to give you a brief update on the progress of the International Standard for Pilot Organizations (ISPO).

During the year we had the pleasure of welcoming the pilots of Australian Pilotage Group, Australian Reef Pilots, Darwin Port Pilotage and Southern Port Pilotage Services to the ISPO family. This means that there are now 31 pilot organizations ISPO certified, representing 1300 marine pilots worldwide.

The corona pandemic is still having a great impact on all of us. Every year the International User Group hosts a conference for internal and external stakeholders. The scheduled conference in Cork had to be postponed due to corona and as an alternative an annual meeting was held by video conference. That worked out fine, but needless to say that a physical meeting would have been much more preferable. Unfortunately, as the travel restrictions are being continuously altered, the decision has been taken to postpone the Cork conference once again. This is not where we would like to be and the decision has not been taken lightly. More details will be promulgated in the near future.

We are pleased to see that more and more pilot organizations understand the benefits of a quality management system specifically for pilot organizations such as ISPO.

ISPO is a tool to show stakeholders who we are, what we do and how we do it and is a uniform system in which pilot procedures are documented, risks are assessed, eventually leading to the continuous improvement of the entire organization. We hope that in the future more pilot organizations will see the benefits of a quality management system like ISPO which, crucially, is made for pilots by pilots.

Feel free to contact me or any other board member if you have any questions regarding ISPO. You can find us on [www.ispo-standard.com](http://www.ispo-standard.com)

On behalf of the board of the International Users Group I wish you a happy and prosperous new year!

Stay healthy, stay safe, safe ships!

Warm Regards, Matt Easton

2021 - 2022