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**JAMAICA SHOWCASES ITS SHIPPING CENTRE PLANS, FLAG DEVELOPMENTS
AND PLENTY OF RUM !!!**

Tropical flavours come to Posidonia this week as the Maritime Authority showcases its plans for Jamaica to become a regional Shipping Centre – and gives visitors the chance to sample its country's excellent rum!

The MAJ will also be highlighting its new European and Asian focus with staff on hand from its Head Office in Kingston, European regional office in Bremen and its Singapore-based Asian regional office. They will be informing ship owners of the Flag's recent reorganization which has enabled the Jamaica Ship Registry (JSR) to provide competitive, qualified and experienced services from its fully authorized regional offices. JSR plans to grow its fleet by two million gross tones by 2012.

Joining the MAJ will be representatives from the Caribbean Maritime Institute – the region's premier English-speaking maritime education centre – shipping agents Lannaman & Morris (Shipping) Ltd, and marine fuel logistics company Aegean Bunkering. Between them they will inform visitors of Jamaica's shipping centre developments, including the current work to establish a floating dry dock in Kingston.

Jamaica, which holds a seat on the IMO Council, as well as providing the STCW with a chairman in the form of its Director General Rear Admiral Peter Brady, plays a leading role in Caribbean maritime activities. It is a lead partner in the GloBallast Project and was recently elected to chair the Regional Task force on Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments in the Wider Caribbean. Jamaica has just hosted a regional workshop aimed at developing a maritime security policy. In addition, the JSR is now able to offer quality crews and has also been certified to ISO 2001:2008 standard.

Harold Kropp, Deputy Registrar says: "Come along and see us to learn more about Jamaica's central role in the maritime industry. We are developing at a fast pace while still retaining our focus on providing high-quality services. And visitors to our stand will have the added bonus of the chance to win a trip for two to a Jamaican resort or a bottle of excellent Jamaican rum – so don't miss us on stand number 565."

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