



PRESS RELEASE

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World Maritime Day A Great Success

The Port Authority's first ever Open Day for the public on Sunday to celebrate the International Maritime Organisation's (IMO) World Maritime Day 2015 proved to be a resounding success with over 2,000 visitors getting a privileged peek inside the Port for the very first time.

Families flocked to the Port to enjoy the many demonstrations, events and competitions and a unique chance to go on board several vessels moored alongside. Boat trips were also available which took visitors to the nearby Gibdock and into the Bay for dolphin watching.

The theme for World Maritime Day this year was Maritime Education and Training which not only gave the Port a chance to showcase the many career opportunities that are available to youngsters, but also gave the adults a behind-the-scenes look at what the Port does for Gibraltar.

The demonstration of the Port's Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) department was particularly popular with visitors being provided with a fascinating insight into how vessels are monitored and controlled by the VTS whilst in British Gibraltar Territorial Waters. The cruise terminal also opened its doors exclusively for the public where the Port, the RGP and many local companies had stalls set out to show what they do.

Three competitions were organised by the Port during the Open Day; a Treasure Hunt, Find the Hidden Anchor and Guess the Weight of the Ship's Propeller. The lucky winners of the competitions will be contacted shortly to collect their prizes which include a pair of binoculars, walkie-talkies, gift vouchers and cinema tickets.

The Hon Paul Balban, Minister for the Port, said:

"The Open Day attendance was a huge success and far exceeded our expectations. Along with the Port staff who helped organise and run this event, we would like to thank all the local companies and other Government authorities for their generous and valuable support, making this an extra special day for everyone."