



ICPFZ

International Conference for Ports and Free Zones

**The International Conference for
North Africa Ports & Free zones**



18 - 20 November 2023

About Misrata

Misrata is a coastal city in Libya that has many attractions and advantages for its residents and visitors. It has a population of more than 800,000 people, and it is situated 210 km east of the city of Tripoli. The city is conveniently connected to the world by land, sea, and air, as it has Misrata International Airport, which offers numerous domestic and international flights and Misurata Maritime Station for passenger transportation, which operates several tourist trips.

This urban area is widely renowned for its thriving industrial, commercial, and service activities. For this reason, it was called the economic capital of Libya. It also provides cash and banking services through more than 20 branches of governmental and private banks.

In addition, the city is an active tourist center for its beautiful and stunning beaches, its various marine and sports activities, and its many hotels and tourist resorts.

Moreover, it has a high standard of health care, as it has more than 200 health facilities providing excellent health care services to all people around the country.

Misrata is a city that combines economic prosperity, cultural diversity, and natural beauty.



Organizers



Misurata Free Zone (MFZ) is the first leading free zone in Libya, established in 2000 and located in the city of Misrata on the Mediterranean coast.

With its geostrategic location in one of the busiest maritime transport regions in the Mediterranean, MFZ brings together major north-south and Europe-Africa trade routes and connects its investors to different regional and global markets easily and at the lowest possible cost.

MFZ owns Libya's largest and busiest commercial seaport, which accounts for about 60% of the country's non-oil trade volume. MFZ provides an ideal investment environment for both local and foreign investors, where all business activities are liberalized from taxation, customs duties or any other restrictions.

MFZ aims to be the world's gateway to Africa and the world beyond and opens its doors to investors to develop the international trade and investment at this transit location through providing a set of unlimited incentives, benefits, and services.

Vision

To be a leading, sustainable and innovative trade and investment hub in the Mediterranean, and contribute to the comprehensive development of the country.

Mission

We in Misurata Free Zone are committed to providing excellent and competitive services to our customers, and an ideal and safe work environment for investors, and encourage innovation and cooperation among different sectors.



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Organizers

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) is a prestigious regional university that offers various programs in maritime transport, engineering, business, and other fields. It was established in 1972 by the Arab League as a specialized institution for maritime education and training, scientific research, and community service. Since then, it has expanded its scope and locations to include several campuses in Egypt and Syria. The AASTMT is recognized internationally for its academic excellence, research innovation, and social impact. It has received many awards and accolades from different organizations and agencies, such as the World Bank, the International Association of Universities, and the ISO. The AASTMT aims to provide its students with the knowledge, skills, and values that will enable them to contribute to the development of their societies and the Arab world

The vision, mission, and core values of the AASTMT reflect its philosophy since its establishment, as well as an affirmation of its desire to be the beacon of science in Egypt and the Arab region. They also highlight that the AASTMT is an effective agent in achieving sustainable economic and social development. Accordingly, the AASTMT's vision, mission, and ruling values have been identified as follows:

Vision

To be a smart educational institution with a positive impact on the knowledge society through research, creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Mission

To achieve sustainable development in society through providing outstanding graduates capable of bringing about change and who are prepared through educational and training programs with international standards, and intellectual capital represented in centers of excellence and efficiency in scientific research, training, and consultations, through the application of the highest quality standards and governance.



Organizers

The Port Training Institute (PTI) is an affiliated institute to the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) that offers various training programs for port and maritime sector personnel. It was established in 1982 by a committee of the Arab League to enhance the human resources development in the fields of ports, maritime transport, and logistics. The PTI has a distinguished reputation in the regional and international levels for its high-quality training services, modern facilities, and qualified instructors. The PTI provides training courses in different areas, such as electrical, hydraulics, diesel, welding, refrigeration, container inspection and repair, rigging, and artificial intelligence applications in ports. The PTI also conducts workshops, webinars, conferences, and international cooperation activities with various partners and entities. The PTI aims to empower the port and maritime industry with the latest knowledge, skills, and technologies that will enable them to cope with the challenges and opportunities of the global market

Vision

To be a specialized training and educational center that increases the efficiency and qualification of human resources working in the maritime field and all its related areas, this is achieved by a training approach that is carefully designed by a distinguished group of professionals to help staff working in this field to reach the international maritime standards and cope with emerging global developments in that domain.

Mission

To meet all the training needs of companies and seaports communities in Egypt, Middle East, and Africa, through implementing an ambitious training plan.

Introduction

As part of Libya's efforts to diversify its economy and reduce its reliance on oil, A significant progress has been made recently in developing its maritime transport, ports and logistics sector. This sector offers opportunities for creating jobs and training, attracting investments for various economic activities and transit trade, and utilizing the local capabilities and resources. The human element is the key factor for achieving development in the maritime transport industry. To enhance this sector, the Ports Training Institute - the Arab Academy for Science and Technology, in collaboration with the Misrata Free Zone, is organizing the first North African International Conference for Transport and Logistics under the theme :

“ Modern global trends and their role in increasing the competitiveness of ports and free zones ”

The conference will also host the International Exhibition for Logistics Equipment and Services which will take place on November 18-20, 2023.

The conference aims to bring together experts, decisionmakers, practitioners and stakeholders including diverse companies and investors from the maritime transport and logistics sector to exchange views, share experiences and best practices, and explore potential solutions. The conference is expected to produce a set of recommendations and action plans for enhancing ports and free zones competitiveness in Libya. It will also contribute to strengthening the collaboration between the Misurata Free Zone and the Arab Academy for Science and Maritime Transport, as well as other partners in the maritime transport and logistics sector It will also provide an opportunity for participants to visit the Misurata Free Zone and the Port which are among the leading examples of ports and free zones development in Libya.



Why attend this conference?

Boosting regional cooperation

The conference fosters cooperation and ties between ports and free zones in North Africa, where participants can explore joint ventures, trade agreements, infrastructure projects, and other collaboration opportunities that can enhance economic growth and trade in this region

Exploring investment opportunities

The conference showcases the potential of the ports and free zones sector in North Africa. You can learn about the business environment, tax laws, and competitive advantages that this region offers, which will help you make informed investment decisions.

Enhancing ports and free zones

By attending the conference, you can exchange ideas and plans with other participants on how to develop the infrastructure, improve the operations, and increase the volume of trade through ports in this region.

Embracing innovation and technology

The conference encourages the use of innovation and technology in the ports and free zones sector in North Africa. You can also get acquainted with the most recent technological advances and creative solutions that can enhance infrastructure and optimize operations in this sector.

Sharing knowledge and experiences

The conference offers a platform for ports and free zones in North Africa to share their insights and achievements in developing and managing their facilities. You can learn from their successes and adopt best practices in the sector.

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The conference aims to achieve the following objectives

- 1 To showcase the latest global trends and innovations in the maritime transport, ports and logistics sector.
- 2 To improve the competitiveness of free zones by adopting flexible planning and operation strategies.
- 3 To foster openness and communication with major global entities to learn from their expertise and experiences.
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- 5 To enhance the efficiency of workers in ports, containers, and the oil and gas sector to meet the global standards and international agreements for safety, security, and green transformation.
- 6 To explore the role of green transformation in improving the efficiency of port and logistics operations.
- 7 To benefit from smart governance applications in the ports, logistics and free zones sector.
- 8 To share the best practices and issue recommendations and proposals.



The conference will cover the following topics

Topics

1st Topic

Digital transformation and innovation in ports and free zones



5th Topic

Sustainable development and environmental initiatives in ports and free zones



2nd Topic

Investment opportunities in free zones and transit trade



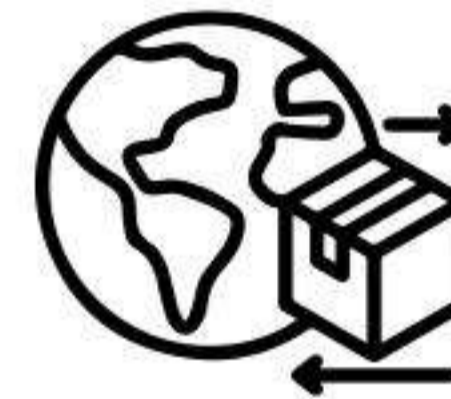
4th Topic

Trade facilitation and logistics services in ports and free zones



3rd Topic

Transit trade and global market trends



Dialogue sessions

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First session: Digital transformation in ports and free zones

- How to leverage digital technologies to enhance port and free zone management
- How to improve efficiency and productivity through automation and robotics in port operations
- How to protect ports and free zones from cyber threats in the digital age
- How to apply Internet of Things solutions in ports and free zones

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Second session: Investment opportunities and strategies in transit trade and free zones

- How to identify and tap into emerging markets for transit trade and free zones
- How to design and implement investment incentives and policies for transit trade and free zones
- How to attract foreign direct investment in transit trade infrastructure
- How to foster public-private partnerships in transit trade projects
- How to support startups and SMEs in transit trade with effective investment strategies
- How investors perceive and evaluate temporary trade and investments in free zones

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3 Third session: Transit trade and its implications for global supply chains and regional integration

- How transit trade affects global supply chains and trade flows
- How to anticipate and respond to emerging market trends in transit trade and free zones
- How free zones can facilitate transit trade and enhance competitiveness
- How to harness the potential of digital technologies for transit trade in the digital age
- How to cope with market turbulence and build resilience in transit trade
- How transit trade can foster economic integration and cooperation in the region

4 Fourth session: Logistics and customs solutions for ports and free zones

- How to optimize logistics around ports and improve supply chain efficiency
- How to streamline customs and border management in ports and free zones
- How to enhance port connectivity and multimodal transport solutions

5 Fifth session: Green ports and environmental sustainability

- How to promote sustainable practices and clean energy solutions in ports and free zones
- How to comply with environmental regulations and standards in ports and free zones
- How to implement circular economy principles in port operations and waste management



The conference and exhibition will target the following stakeholders and entities

- Free zones
- Port authorities, container terminals and oil ports
- transport and logistics companies
- Shipping and port services companies
- Gas and oil sector
- Technical and vocational training and education sector
- Academic experts and researchers who are interested in topics related to maritime and international transport
- Insurance providers
- Export and import companies
- International economic and trade organizations
- Ministry of Transportation
- Ministry of Finance
- Customs and tax agencies



The exhibition

The exhibition accompanied by the first North African International Conference for Transport and Logistics is a vital and valuable event for anyone involved or interested in the field of port services, maritime transport and free zones.



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The exhibition

By participating in the exhibition, you will be able to:

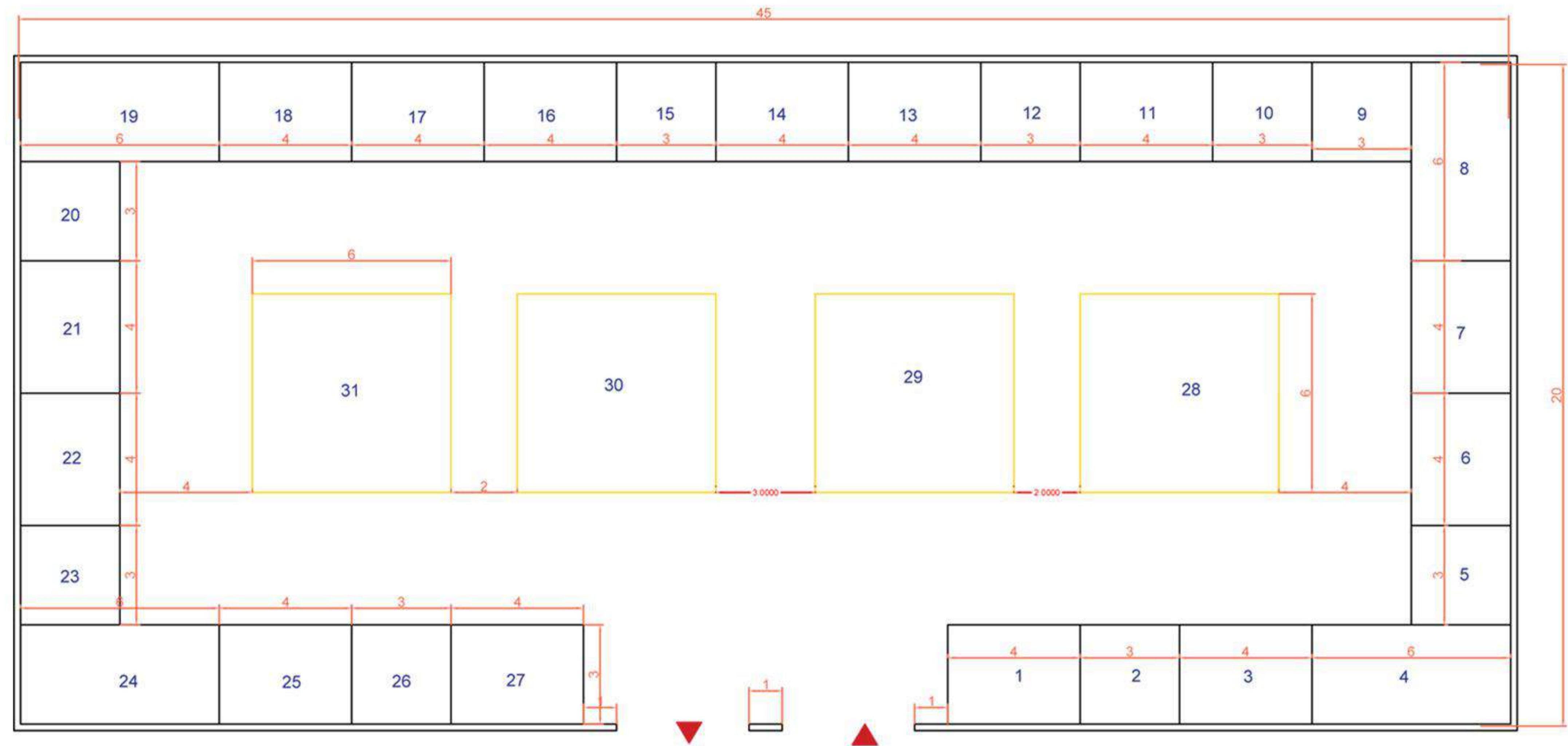
- **Showcase your products, services and innovations to a large and diverse audience of potential customers, partners and investors from the region and beyond.**
- **Learn from the best practices and experiences of leading local and international companies, organizations and institutions in the industry.**
- **Network with key regional and international decision makers, experts and professionals in the field and explore new opportunities for collaboration and cooperation to strengthen and enhance industrial, economic and commercial activity in the region.**
- **Stay updated on the latest technologies and trends in the maritime transport and free zone industry and gain insights into the challenges and opportunities facing the sector.**



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The exhibition





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