

## **Dabelstein & Passehl Shipping and Marine Insurance Scholarship 2005**

I would like to begin by expressing my thanks to everyone at Dabelstein & Passehl for inviting me to take part in the 2005 Scholarship programme and for taking time out of their schedules to organise and participate in what was a most informative and enjoyable course.

The course with its mixture of in house lectures and company visits offered us scholars a wonderful opportunity of not only getting acquainted with a variety of aspects of German law but also a rare insight into the workings of various operators in the shipping and marine insurance markets. Unfortunately it is a relatively rare occurrence for young lawyers these days to get the opportunity to experience the practical side of the industry in which we operate and therefore especially appreciated.

I was most impressed by the level of commitment and preparation shown by all the Dabelstein & Passehl employees and clients that participated in the Scholarship programme. As regards to the practical aspects of the course it is very difficult to pick out one visit above another as they covered such a broad spectrum of business and each visit offered different insights. However, some of the highlights for me were the ship visit with Capt. Warmboldt and the visits to the Hamburg Court and Blohm & Voss. The shipping community is a small world sometimes; not only did I return from my two weeks in Hamburg to find a surveyor's report by no other than Capt. Warmboldt on my desk but it also turned out that Judge Wendt who kindly accommodated us whilst visiting the Hamburg Court is currently presiding over one of our cases. In addition to these events I also very much enjoyed the visits to Allianz and Munich Re as these afforded us with an opportunity to learn more about both the direct insurance and reinsurance markets, two areas of law that I have become increasingly involved in of late.

Finally, the Scholarship was very interesting from a comparative law perspective and it enabled me to learn more about not only German law but also Australian, Danish and Polish law through the various discussions that we all had during our two weeks together.

On a more personal note, the Scholarship has provided me with some newfound friends and it has enabled some new contacts and relationships to be created and has hopefully strengthened existing ones.

Once again thank you for your hospitality and generosity during my stay in Hamburg.

**Marie Sundell**  
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