# Invitation to the launch of the TRI MARITIME FORUM Series

I am delighted to invite you to the first of the TRI Maritime Forum series. It will be held on October 22nd 2008, in the Hilton Grosvenor Hotel, (50 metres from Edinburgh Haymarket station). The forum will provide the opportunity to hear from renowned local and international speakers, enter discussion and input views.

The event is free of charge but does require you to book in advance. I am attaching a booking form, at the base of this letter, and would welcome you to be part of the audience at this exciting event. The meeting will be followed by a "pay-in" dinner, which you are welcome to be part of. We do ask that you let us know if you wish to join us at the dinner, which requires reservations and is likely to have limited spaces. Please indicate this on the form.

Yours Sincerely

Prof. Kevin Cullinane – Director, Transport Research Institute

# Private Equity Investments in Shipping and Ports

**Venue**: Hilton Grosvenor Hotel, Grosvenor Street, Haymarket, Edinburgh
**Date**: October 22 2008 **Time**: 17:30 - 19:30

The Transport Research Institute is delighted to launch its first forum, which will focus on "Private Equity Investment in Shipping and Ports". The forum will highlight how recent trends and developments of private equity investments potentially impact on shipping and ports in Scotland.

Potential impacts of developments in financing maritime infrastructure will be discussed and the potential conflict in utilising private equity finance between shipping and ports as profit generators and the role of shipping services and ports in the wider socioeconomic context will be critically reviewed. The TRI Maritime Forum will review these new phenomena in financing maritime infrastructure and shall highlight challenges for governments and institutions dealing with private sector interests in strategic infrastructure assets.

TRI is proud to present the following key speakers:

**Moderation:** ***Gavin Roser (PANTRAK)***

**Private Equity Investments in the Ferry Sector**
***Prof. Alfred Baird - Transport Research Institute, Napier University,*** Edinburgh

**Private Equity Investments in Port Infrastructure**
***Ricardo J. Sánchez - Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC),*** *Santiago Chile*

**Legal Issues Affecting Investment Decisions**
***Neil Amner, Partner, Biggart Baillie LLP, Solicitors***

Northern Maritime University
North Sea Region

The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme

**Speaker Profiles**

***Professor Alfred Baird***
Professor Alf Baird is Head of the Maritime Research Group at Napier University's Transport Research Institute in Edinburgh, Scotland. Prior to his academic career he worked for a shipping company in Leith, followed by a position as Shipping Manager for a multinational engineering company. His doctoral research involved the study of global strategic management in liner container shipping.

***Ricardo J. Sánchez***
Ricardo J Sánchez is Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC), in charge of maritime, logistic and port issues, and Assistant Professor of the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile. He is an economist and MSc in Economics of Public Utilities at the University of Paris Nanterre and University Carlos III of Madrid, in Spain. His main research interests are shipping economics and port economics, including the maritime cycle, port devolution and applied industrial organization matters.

***Neil Amner***
Neil is one of Scotland's leading transport, environmental and parliamentary lawyers. His transport practise covers rail (passenger, freight and infrastructure), tram schemes, roads (including freight transport and road user charging), bus/coach, aviation, ferry and short sea shipping and harbours operations and infrastructure matters. He is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport, a member of the Rail Freight Group and the European Freight & Logistics Leaders Forum. Neil is Director of Glasgow Chamber of Commerce and chairs its Infrastructure and Transport Issues Group. He is a member of the Law Society of Scotland's Environmental Law Committee and United Kingdom Environmental Law Association.

# Response Form

Please complete and return to:

Jill Napier, Transport Research Institute, Napier University, Merchiston Campus, Edinburgh EH10 5DT. Fax to: 0131 455 2953 Email to: tri@napier.ac.uk

Please reserve _____ places at the TRI Maritime Forum, 22nd Oct 08.

Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Telephone: _____

Please also reserve _____ places at the dinner following the forum.

Dinner places are limited, please accept our apologies if we are unable to accommodate all requests. Attendance at the forum is free of charge. Dinner is charged, payable at the restaurant. The estimated cost for dinner is 20 pounds.