



Mr. Chris Welsh MBE

Secretary-General Global Shipper's Forum

Chris Welsh was appointed Secretary General of the Global Shippers' Forum in July 2011. Since its incorporation in 2011, the GSF has expanded to represent 40 national and regional shippers' associations in every major region of the world. The GSF represents shippers' interests in the main international UN based transport and inter-governmental organisations, such as the IMO, WCO, WTO, ILO, UNECE, UNCTAD, ICAO, APEC, ITF/OECD and the EU.

From 1996-2001 Chris was Secretary General of the European Shippers' Council (ESC) where he played the prominent role in deregulating EU shipping and air cargo markets, spear-heading a series of successful maritime anti-trust legal cases culminating in the repeal of anti-trust immunity for liner shipping conferences in trades to and from Europe in 2006.

In 1987 Chris set up the European Air Shippers' Council (EASC) to campaign for the liberalisation of air cargo services, enhanced levels of competition in the provision of air cargo services and service quality improvements for shippers. The EASC succeeded in ending tariff coordination in Europe and in establishing agreed industry service quality key performance indicators. Chris merged the EASC and ESC following his appointment as ESC Secretary General in 1996.

Chris has held a variety of senior management roles for the UK Freight Transport Association, and is also currently Director of Global and European Policy. In 1992 he established FTA's Brussels office and in 2010 was instrumental in establishing FTA Ireland a new independent multimodal logistics trade association for Irish shippers and logistics interests.

In June 2015, Her Majesty the Queen appointed Chris a Member of The Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to shippers and the shipping industry.

Chris holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA), is a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CIMLT) and a Member of the Chartered Management Institute (MCMI).