

Dear members of the ICS German Branch e. V.,

With great sadness and in shock we need to inform you today that our former Chairman and member of the board for many years

**Karl Ludwig Franz  
Kalle**

passed away on 8 June 2018.

Karl Ludwig Franz started his career in shipping in 1979 as trainee first working for UNI-CHARTER Schiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH in Hamburg, thereafter at K. H. Thomas (Shipping) Ltd. in Cardiff/Wales. He always very fondly remembered his time in Cardiff.

Further career stages were the traditional Hamburg ship-owner ORION Schiffahrtsgesellschaft Reith & Co., GmbH & Co, where he worked as chartering broker, director and deputy head of the owning department, and company HBC Hamburg Bulk Carriers GmbH Co. KG, where as a director he was responsible for chartering, claims handling and mentoring the staff of chartering and operations.

As of 2013 Karl Ludwig Franz worked with Oskar Wehr KG (GmbH & Co.) as director of operations and dry bulk. In 2017 he changed to work with FastNet Chartering & Service GmbH in Hamburg as Senior Manager Operations.

It was Karl Ludwig Franz' particular concern and passion to pass the great knowledge of shipping he had gained over many years, to the younger generation. Alongside to many years working in the shipping industry, education was Karl's second big subject in his professional life.

In respect of his own further education he first completed a training and passed the exam to become a "Verkehrsfachwirt (Shipping)", which is an equivalent to a BSc qualification, in 1991/1992. In 1993 he passed the ICS exams and became a member of the ICS. In 1998 he was promoted to Fellowship. But training and further education for junior staff always was a matter of great importance to him, too. One part of his commitment in this area was with the ICS. Karl Ludwig Franz was a founding member of the ICS German Branch in 1996 and Vice Chairman on the first board (1996 – 1999). Thereafter he served either as Chairman, Vice Chairman or President of the German Branch throughout all the years up to May 2017. At the international level Karl supported the ICS as *International Vice Chairman* (2007 – 2009), *International Chairman* (2009 – 2011) and *Immediate Past Chairman* (2011 – 2013). Since 2015 Karl had been *Chairman of the Membership Committee*.

But not only representing the ICS and promoting its motto "*our word our bond*" was important to him. For many years he taught students taking part in the ICS exams preparation courses offered by the Hamburg School of Shipping and Transportation.

In addition to his big commitment with the ICS, Karl Ludwig Franz had also been serving for more than two decades as an examiner at the Chamber of Commerce Hamburg for

the exams taken by the apprentices training to become certified shipbrokers (Schiffahrtskaufmann) and thus guided uncounted numbers of young graduates.

His achievements in the field of education and training in Hamburg and internationally are great and varied. The ICS German Branch was founded, grew and prospered based on his commitment, his ideas, his knowledge and his determination. The ICS became *“a truly international organisation”*, not only but also, due to the impulses given and initiatives started by Karl Ludwig Franz.

The ICS German Branch board is very grateful for his tireless efforts, for sharing his knowledge with us, for his wit, for his sense of humour. We are at a loss trying to imagine how the gap, which his passing is tearing, could be filled. All of us will miss him sorely.

Karl Ludwig Franz is leaving his wife and three children, to whom our thoughts go out and for whom we feel deepest sympathy. The family has informed us that a strictly private service will be held for Karl and asked for our and your understanding.

In order to give you the opportunity to say farewell and to express your sympathy, a condolence book will be laid out in the Staatliche Handelsschule Berliner Tor, Bei der Hauptfeuerwache 1, 20099 Hamburg from Monday, 18 June 2018 to Wednesday, 20 June 2018. You can leave your last greeting every day between 09:00 and 14:00 hrs.

It will not help to reduce the family’s pain and sadness, but we would like to encourage the idea of collecting donations in an uncomplicated manner and pass the amount collected to Mrs. Franz to be used for the children’s professional education.

Please make your donations payable to the ICS German Branch e. V. bank account with the Deutsche Bank, IBAN DE52 2007 0000 0926 8590 00, BIC: DEUTDEHH, using the reference *“Karl Ludwig Franz”*.

The German Branch board will hand over both the condolence book as well as the collected donations to Mrs. Franz at the end of June 2018.

Kalle has been far more than the sum of all his activities and commitments listed here and this text does not claim to be exhaustive. You certainly will have many own memories of meetings with him or joined activities in fields other than those mentioned here. Let us keep those memories alive and continue to give Karl Ludwig Franz, whom everybody called Kalle, a place among us. Let us keep working together in his spirit.

ICS German Branch e. V. – The Board

Hauke Pane  
(Chairman)

Jan Bartels  
(Vice Chairman)

Marc Buchholz  
(President)

Hamburg, 12.06.2018