

# PRESS RELEASE

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## North P&I Club's CIO James Holmes Highlights the Importance of Cyber Security & Resilience at this Year's #Cyberfest

James, who is responsible for the security of over 280 employees at North's Newcastle Quayside based head office and a further 100 employees worldwide, stressed the importance of preparation and said, "We need to plan for when a cyber attack might happen, not if it may happen. With more than half of British firms reporting cyber attacks in 2019\*, we can't sit back and do nothing."

With these regular reports of high-profile businesses falling victim to cyber crime, it's the responsibility of every organisation to ensure that they are adequately protected. James said, "North is actively promoting awareness of the importance of cyber security and resilience with employees and the shipowners we insure. The focus has been on three key areas: People, Process and Technology."

One of North's strategic objectives is to support the maritime industry in becoming more globally responsible, by educating employees and shipowners to protect their assets and reduce cyber risks. James concluded, "Our purpose at North is to enable the shipowners we insure to trade with confidence and our commitment to delivery and service excellence means that our shipowners have a reliable support structure to keep their business moving forward."

In 2018, North was awarded the government-backed Cyber Essentials plus accreditation, which is awarded to companies who have successfully implemented systems to protect themselves against cyber threats.

\*BBC News: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-48017943>

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## **Notes to Editors:**

### **North P&I Club**

North P&I Club is a leading global marine insurer providing P&I, FD&D, war risks and ancillary insurance to 195 million GT of owned and chartered tonnage. Through its guaranteed subsidiary Sunderland Marine, North is also a leading insurer of fishing vessels, small craft and aquaculture risks. The Standard and Poor's 'A' rated Club is based in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK with regional offices and subsidiaries in China (Hong Kong and Shanghai), Greece, Ireland, Japan, Singapore, USA and Sunderland Marine offices worldwide. North is a leading member of the International Group of P&I Clubs (IG), with over 12% of the IG's owned tonnage. The 13 IG clubs provide liability cover for approximately 90% of the world's ocean-going tonnage and, as a member of the IG, North protects and promotes the interests of the international shipping industry. For further information, visit: [www.nepia.com](http://www.nepia.com)

### **Sunderland Marine**

Sunderland Marine is a leading insurer of fishing vessels, small craft and aquaculture risks. Established in 1882, Sunderland Marine has been providing marine insurance for over 130 years. Sunderland Marine's highly qualified and knowledgeable teams of underwriters, surveyors and claims staff ensure that clients are provided with high levels of service and comprehensive insurance policies. For more information on Sunderland Marine, please visit [www.sunderlandmarine.com](http://www.sunderlandmarine.com).