Jan Matthysen joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1984. He started his foreign service career as First Secretary at the Belgian Embassy in Bonn, followed by an assignment as Counselor at the Embassy in then East Berlin, where he witnessed the reunification of Germany in 1990.

From 1994 to 1997, he served in Belgrade, first as Chargé d’Affaires and later as Ambassador. Following his time in the former Yugoslavia, Jan Matthysen became Head of the NATO desk at the Foreign Ministry in Brussels. From 1999 to 2000, he served as Acting Head of the General Directorate for Political-Military Affairs. At the same time, he was Senior Advisor on Kosovo to the United Nations Secretary General’s Special Representative for the Balkans.

In 2000, Matthysen was appointed Ambassador in Ankara, accredited to Turkey, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan. In 2004, he moved to South-East Asia, serving as the Belgian Ambassador in Bangkok and accredited to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Burma/Myanmar.

He began his current appointed as Ambassador to the United States in February 2009, and presented his credentials to President Obama on May 20, 2009.

Ambassador Matthysen graduated from the University of Ghent in 1973 with a degree in contemporary political history. He is married to Mrs. Agnes Aerts. They have five children.
Melanie Kenderdine, Director of the Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis and Energy Counselor to the Secretary

Melanie A. Kenderdine joined the Department of Energy first as Energy Counselor to the Secretary in May 2013 and later became the Director of the Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis. Prior to serving in her current roles at DOE, Ms. Kenderdine worked as the Executive Director and Associate Director of the MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI). Before joining MITEI, Ms. Kenderdine served as the Vice President of Washington Operations for the Gas Technology Institute (GTI) from 2001 to 2007. From 1993 to 2001, Ms. Kenderdine served as a presidential appointee in President Bill Clinton’s administration; she served in several key posts including Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, Director of the Office of Policy, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Prior to joining DOE during the Clinton Administration, Ms. Kenderdine was Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for New Mexico Congressman Bill Richardson, who later was named US Secretary of Energy. Ms. Kenderdine has served on a Council on Foreign Relations Task Force to develop a national energy strategy, on the Consumers Energy Council of America Working Group on Distributed Energy, has published articles in the World Energy Forum magazine, co-authored a chapter in “Energy Security in the 21st Century: A New Foreign Policy Strategy”, and is a frequent lecturer on energy issues.

Kristen Holmquist, Director NGL Analytics, Ponderosa Advisors

Ms. Holmquist leads Ponderosa’s NGL and condensate research and analytics. Since joining Ponderosa, she has done projects examining national NGL pipeline flows, condensate supply/demand and economics and detailed production dynamics in several areas of the country. Prior to joining Ponderosa Advisors, Ms. Holmquist was the manager of BENTEK Energy’s NGL team, leading the development of long term supply/demand modeling, price forecasting tools and groundbreaking new report services. She also completed several major client studies focusing on long term NGL supply/demand/pricing. Prior to joining BENTEK Energy, Ms. Holmquist was Director, Feedstocks and Cracker Economics at CMAI (now IHS Chemical). During her tenure at CMAI, she modeled ethylene production economics, evaluating the competitiveness of NGL feedstocks. Ms. Holmquist holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from Virginia Tech, and an MBA from the University of Notre Dame.

Matthew Kuhl, Senior Consultant, KBC Advanced Technologies

Matthew’s career has taken him from manufacturing to marketing and optimization. He rose from process engineer to unit manager with Solvay at the Deer Park, TX site, which was one of the largest polyolefin manufacturing complexes in the world. Supervisory experience early in his career helped to shape his big-picture to problem solving. He successfully optimized Lyondell’s complex network of olefin, derivative, refining and pipeline assets as the light olefins operations planner from 2007-2010. Conversant in modeling software, he was able to coordinate optimization, manufacturing, sales, and customer service to effectively manage product inventories and execute the strategies of business management. Matthew earned an MBA from the University of Houston and a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology.
Nicolas Saverys, Chief Executive Officer, Exmar
Nicolas Saverys is the CEO and Managing Director of Exmar. He has been involved in the family business of shipowning since graduating from the University of Ghent with a degree in Economics in 1980. From that time he has been responsible for starting Exmar and the steering its development to its current position as one of the major gas shipowning companies. His current business responsibilities, in addition to shipping, include insurance brokerage, real estate, towage and salvage, ship management and aviation. For almost 20 years, Nicolas was Chairman of the Royal Belgian Shipowners Association and during this mandate he was the driving force behind the successful revamping of the national Belgian register which led to an unprecedented growth and reflagging. He is also Chairman of the Flemish Ports Associates and the Benelux Committee of Bureau Veritas. Furthermore, Nicolas is Director of NileDutch.

Mark Routt, Senior Staff Consultant, KBC Advanced Technologies
Mark is an accomplished manager with extensive global consulting and industry positions in Strategic Planning, Supply Chain, Logistics, global energy trading, physical and financial commodity Risk Management. Mark has lived and worked in the United States and 12+ countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Mark has an in-depth knowledge of refining, logistics and downstream international petroleum energy markets. Mark holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University.