

From the Editor's Desk

The Maritime World needs to look forward for the Owners/Ship Managers of the Shipping Companies to ensure their vessels are well maintained to give trouble free service with the highest possible standards of safety and environmental performance, combined with high level of operational excellence. The need and assurance, for the highest quality of operational and technical capability from the Superintendents. Marine / Engineer Superintendents and Designated Person Ashore should strive with constant emphasis towards a pursuit to excellence. The need for them to be totally abreast and updated so to act wisely, keeping to the times, giving their best for implementation in practical sense, with the relevant theoretical and practical backup, strong operational skills, commercial awareness, excellent inter personal skills, who needs to take the pride in exceeding the minimum quality standards. They being responsible to assess the vessel from time to time and give the feedback to accept or decline, for the company's international business of high standards. The Designated Person Ashore be self-motivated and demonstrate strong team and relationship management skills. The constant emphasis to be on excellence, the need to maintain the highest possible quality standards in operation and maintenance ensuring seaworthiness, with the best gracious appearance of vessel, while calling at ports and leaving the ports, thereby exhibiting the best image of the shipping company and its men and the nation it belongs.

The Shipping Company therefore needs to assure and ensure the implementation of the best acceptable quality standards in operation and maintenance, without compromising on safety, in compliance to IMO/ILO Rules, Conventions and Regulations. The Management of Shipping Company needs to ensure transparency in their dealings for accountability and the right to information. Suppression of Unlawful Acts is seriously viewed by the National/ International Shipping Administrations.

Indian Seafarers have proved to be in high demand owing to their professional trade skills with updates keeping pace with an increasingly competitive, technically complex environment with the new regulations, proficiency in English language, broad knowledge, their integrity, social commitment and most of all their daringness/preparedness to take risks doing hazardous jobs. The shipping company to bear in mind that their floating staff (seafarers) are their most important guardian of their asset out at sea, sacrificing from their normal human life. The company to undertake training of their men, as required enhancing their quality and skills at company cost and view their genuine needs as welfare, with human touch and sense of belonging.

Ships should submit crew lists by e-mail from vessels says IMO. The International Maritime Organisation Facilitation Committee has published a circular (FAL.5 Circ. 19, March 2003) that e-mail addresses of various authorities in ports should be published, to make it easier for electronic information exchange between shipmasters and the authorities. THIS NEEDS TO BE RELIGIOUSLY FOLLOWED.

*Very little being achieved by the international bodies IMO/ILO/ITF to get rid of substandard ships, off the oceans. Look forward to see realistic financial commitments, to encourage real quality ships and make low quality ship operations unsustainable. The need to apply management efficiency techniques in **Safety Health and Environment**. Implementation of uniform maritime studies and not over burden the seafarers, during their hard earned leave ashore.*

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- K Line boxship grounds at Fremantle•
- National Australian ballast policy moves a step closer•
- Neptune Orient looks to the skies
- New capacity boosts OOIL earnings
- New judge for Prestige case
- New MMM share issue undersubscribed
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- OMI expands portfolio of period charters
- Pacific Star plumps for Daewoo VLCCs•
- Sasebo splashes out on Yen5bn upgrade
- Singapore outpaces Hong Kong in first quarter•
- Study highlights gaps in Australian maritime security
- Thiel Logistik chief to step down in June
- Titan snaps up Great Eastern VLCC
- Los Angeles AMPs up cruiseship berths
- Heidmar enters bunkering with Houston Marine Services buy
- Northern Spanish ports break new ground
- Shinwa makes history with multi-vessel syndicated loan
- Berlian Laju Tankers lifts expansion budget to \$350m
- KPPU must reveal informants to Pertamina tanker hearing
- Baoshan steel plans \$3.3bn spending spree
- P&O Nedlloyd confirms Voltri joint venture
- C-MAP offers industrys first ENCs covering shipping routes in Indian waters
- ShipServ to play a part in Singapore's MERIT programme
- Aggreko helps prepare Amazon Hope 2 for Peru
- SAM Electronics-Lyngso Marine at Nor-Shipping 2005
- London Club enjoys successful renewal season
- GL certification for GE's 8, 12 and 16 cylinder diesel engines
- Trimline completes work on Saga Ruby project
- Wartsila power for twin-screw product tankers
- Kelvin Hughes snags World-Wide Shipping contract
- Green Shipping World set for May
- Hempel's marine business sees growth in 2004 C-MAP to provide ENCs for Malaysia and Malacca Straits
- Wartsila power for yacht carrier
- STC orders simulation suite for new site
- EnSolve Biosystems wins US navy contract option
- CapRock named Teleport Developer of the Year
- RINA moves towards zero emission engines
- Moore Stephens highlights shipping aspects of new accounting rules
- Boost for MEPs MariSan system
- Comar launches SLR-200 AIS receiver
- Datatrac success at Seatrade Awards
- Second draft of common structural rules for bulk carriers now available
- Maritime Supplier - May/June edition
- AMOT and MAN B&W sign agreement on bearing condition monitor
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