

Navigating Ahead



MASTERMIND SHIPMANAGEMENT LTD

Navigating Ahead - Issue 2

04 July 2011

MSM NEW OFFICE BUILDING



On the 1st of July the bulldozers arrived to start with the 'keel-laying of Mastermind's new office building. In about one years' time (September 2012) MSM will be moving into its new premises



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Letter from the MD

Dear Seafarers,
Employees
Friends & Business associates,

Since our last Navigating Ahead newsletter quite a lot of developments have happened. Our Alsterdiep has joined Pool Carriers in Hamburg for her commercial management. Pool Carriers were founded in January 2004 and are domiciled in Hamburg. Their specialty is the operation of modern coasters between 3,000 mt and 6,000 mt deadweight mainly in the European Coastal Trade. The main cargoes are forest products, such as paper in reels, wood pulp and sawn timber, pulp logs, woodchips, woodpellets, grain, feedstuff, steels, containers. Pool Carriers have good ships and experienced office staff. They won a good market share also in project shipments, windmills and windmill equipment. First Capt. Dakowski and now Capt. Chachulski and their crew have done a great job for Pool Carriers and contributed to the "well above market" voyage results. Many factories in Europe are already on holiday mode and the situation North Africa remains problematic. The combination of both has now caused a total emptiness in the cargo market. Many coasters are now without work.

In today's time of low freight rates it is very important that the port calls are well planned by the

vessels command since the time in port greatly depends on the good organisation on board. Proper ballast operations at the right time ensures maximum cargo intake; every ton of cargo counts. The right hatch cover movements and good cargo hold preparation can also save a lot of time. Handling bulkheads and tween decks at the right time and manner can save also a lot of time and money.

During the voyage the right trim and proper RPM's ensure the most economical speed and consumption. With 700 USD per mt HFO the fuel costs are higher than the time charter rates. It is therefore of utmost importance that we run our vessels and engines as economical as possible. Again every drop of fuel counts.

MSM is very fortunate that all our vessels, despite the difficult market, have cargoes and good employment. We are therefore thankful to all our charterers and commercial operators for doing such a great job.

MSM passed the ISM and ISO office audit with flying colors. The audit was jointly conducted by the GL and the Cyprus Flag state Authorities. A big thank you to all of you for this great success.

The Roll-Out of our KVH V-Sat systems has started and the Alsterdiep and Seaboard Chile will be able to go "Online" soon. We have now

also completed our MSM Career Development Program. This program combines training in ISNTC, Yanmar Engineering School in Manila, NTC, MAST and a comprehensive Videotel On Board Training program. We are now printing new Employment Record Books and started to supply the vessels with the Videotel Training Volt which offers you more than 500 training titles. The MSM Career Development Program prescribes you to take only 120 courses on your way from Cadet to Master or C/E. You have therefore the very unique opportunity to choose from 380 titles your own tailor made additional career development program and keep also records in the ERB. We have commenced the training of the first MSM Cadet batch in Manila and employed also European 3rd officers and Engineers. In total we will have by 2012 24 cadets employed.

I wish all of you a good summer, joyful/relaxing vacations and for you on board safe and happy sailings. Let's Navigate Ahead !

Best Regards,
Capt. E-H Adami



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MV MAESTRO EAGLE—OS ANGELO MONTEBON

This is my 3rd ship as a rating of a bulkcarrier vessel and my 1st time in MSM fleet. I started my career on a bulkcarrier owned by a Danish company and managed by Japanese principals. I left my previous company because it's their policy not to rehire any crew who have been recommended by senior officers who then later transfer to another company because majority of the crew, especially those who are just starting their career as a seafarer, are recommended by senior officers or office staff. And since then my brother left the company to find a better company and a "greener pasture" as they say.

I applied to several companies in Manila and a friend of mine told me about MSM and that they are accepting crew from other company who are qualified and has passed OIC board exams. So I gave it a try applying for any rank available to me, and after a few days they scheduled me to take examinations, assessments and interviews as per company policy and by God's grace I passed and after a few days I was assigned to board M/V UBC Stockholm, which is now Maestro Eagle, a newly built bulk carrier owned by MSM, but before I joined I had to finish the trainings required.

I joined the vessel on October 31, 2010 at Saiki Heavy Ind., Oita, Japan. We stayed in Japan for almost a week since vessel had to be well prepared for a safe voyage and for us to get

familiarized with her.

After everything had been prepared we set sail on her maiden voyage bound to Yantai China to load fertilizer cargo to be discharged at Mexico and Colombia.

Our 1st voyage was quite challenging and very interesting for me because the vessels capability and the efficiency to manoeuvre quickly had been tested by some fishing boats previously. The skills and training of the officers and crew in applying every rule of the road, carefully assessing every critical situation made by these fishermen, sailing in a vastly deep of small vessels and with the help of its modern equipment and its crew, we docked safely at the berth.

After the vessel had proved herself it was our time to be tested both in communication and practices to take the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of the vessel, cargo and most especially the lives of the people working onboard. Luckily before loading we were able to go ashore to take a look at the country and to help ourselves prepare for a long voyage to Mexico.

For every port there are never ending challenges, lessons learned, talents discovered and skills acquired. And of course the good times which help us to overcome the longing we feel for our families.

This is our 7th month now and so far this is just one memorable experience that I had in my life. Because personally, I want to travel and visit different countries, to meet and speak with different nationalities and see the beauty of their nature.

In Argentina I saw for the first time sea lions. I was amazed and inspired how they seem untouchable and stay unharmed, even if there are a lot of predators around. I think that's the principle of teamwork right there! They know that when they stick together they are invincible, they can rely on each other all the way. And that experience makes me proud of being a seafarer; I am thankful as well because not everyone has the privilege to see those creatures in such way.

And for all those things that has happened to me, I am thankful to MSM for giving me this opportunity of serving one of their vessel. Also to my comrades here onboard for their trust and confidence that makes me perform and maximize my skills and continually learn the important things in my career and in this life, and also I am thankful and grateful to my God who gives me the strength to overcome every temptations and the strength to do everything in the right way, despite of the pressures we encounter and

the yearning we feel for our families during those times when we are on our own. He gives us the strength and the courage to do this for the good of our future generation. God taught us to love our families and do everything in order for us to have a better life.

I won't forget what Capt. E. Adami said during our last day at the shipyard (I can't remember every word but his message clings to me as this): "in MSM we are family and we only want what is good for our families respectively. Take good care of the good you have, for in the future it won't fail you. Have a safe voyage and think of our respective families that we leave at home."

Good voyage always and God bless us all as we navigate forward!

OS Angelo Montebon



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M/V Alsterdiep — Cadet Joemar Career Choices

Many of us don't know or forget how lucky and blessed we are as a seaman or seafarer. Sometimes we just realize how valuable a "thing" when it is lost or it is too late. Some of us think that this job is tough or difficult and there are many moments that we doubt ourselves about the career we "choose". Some seafarer's don't know how to save their earnings and don't know how to use it well. Are you one of those?

Seaman's life is really exciting and amazing. It has its ups and downs. You have the privilege to travel around the world for 'free', meet different nationalities and cultures, experience different climate and taste different kinds of food and fruits. Parties on board and most of all, salary is very good. There are a lot of advantages compared to the normal land job, both on domestic and abroad. You don't have to pay for electrical and water bills, free board and lodging, free food, free seasickness and roller coaster ride when you are passing Biscay Bay and when encountering bad weather during voyage. We don't need to ride public vehicles or buy petrol for our cars to go to our job and experience tough traffic.

Seafarers' life nowadays is different from what we heard from old seamen. Thanks to 'ISPS'!..... All those good old times and delicious moments that a seaman can experience was almost changed. But our loved one's and family have more peace of mind because they will not worry so much about us, especially for our money. That is the advantages of ISPS for us, not only for the security benefits.

Being young and a virgin in this career, I am aware that I have many things to learn and experience before I can achieve my goal. But many people has told me, that it was not a wise decision which I did. They're saying: if I were you, I wouldn't choose this job or program, better to select Electrician program or work ashore as an Engineer. It will be easier because you have a Degree and Electrical Engineering License and you will not start from nothing. I just answer them with a smile and I respect their opinion because everybody has its own outlook. Maybe it would be their choice. But deep inside of me, 'the more you think that I am wrong, the more you encourage me and think that I am right'. It is what I 'Choose'! That is how really motivated and crazy or stupid I am! That is me; JOEMAR CRIS LIMIN PAULE. How about you, what will you 'choose'?



Passenger onboard MV MSM Don



On our passage from Ceuta to Azores Islands (09-14 April.11) we encountered quite bad weather. As our Lady was full of cargo we had about 10 cm water on deck all the time. . One morning we found blind passenger on deck. A big turtle about 30 cm. He/she was crying really much and was happy when we set him/her free.



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MV OPAL ADVANCE — LOADING IN CHINA

Vessel's call to port of Gaolan, China on the 9th of June 2011 after bunkering in Hongkong to load 'full vessel with accommodation units & accessories' to be discharged in Port Hedland, Australia. Crew was in-charge for lashing of all cargoes.

A lot of cargo on shore...waiting to load...



...and then two full days of loading...



Experienced and competent crew on board proved that they are ready for any kind of trade to be done.

After cargo was loaded, crew made the washing of fresh water during underway to Port Hedland. This is to ensure that the cargo will pass by the AQIS (Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service) authority.

MV OPAL ADVANCE always standing by for the better future of the owner, ship owner, company, etc. We really prove that the officers and crew developed the teamwork, skills and friendship. At all times NAVIGATING AHEAD!!!

BUT LIFE ONBOARD IS NOT ONLY WORK....!



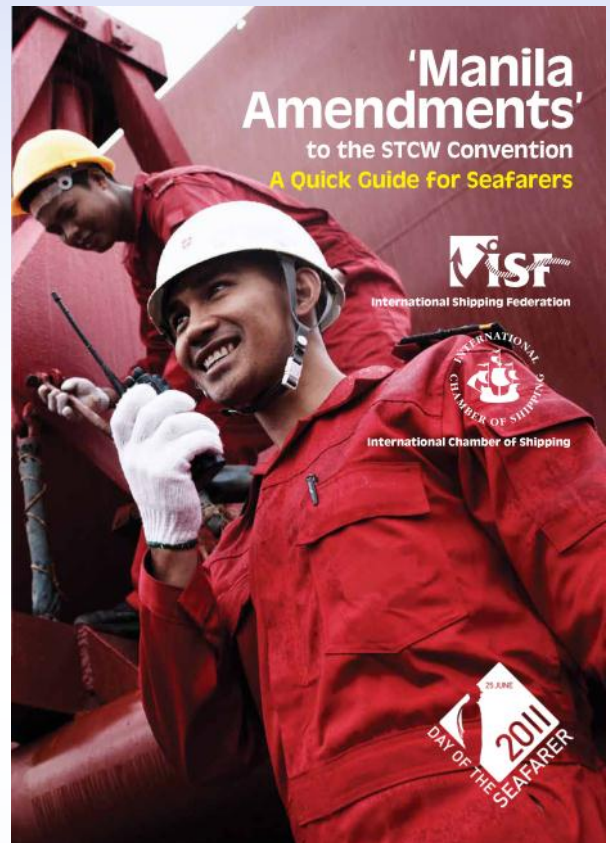
“MANILA AMENDMENTS” - A QUICK GUIDE FOR SEAFARERS

ISF BROCHURE ON STCW CONVENTION TO MARK DAY OF THE SEAFARER

In order to mark the first IMO ‘Day of the Seafarer’ on 25 June 2011, which also marks the first anniversary of the adoption of the “Manila Amendments of STCW on 25 June 2010, the International Chamber of Shipping has produced a brochure using its employers’ association identity under the International Shipping Federation (ISF).

The brochure, entitled ‘Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention; A Quick Guide for Seafarers’ is intended to explain the main changes that were made to the Convention in 2010 to the seafarers who will be directly affected by them. The “Manila Amendments” will start to come into effect from 1 January 2012.

MSM Personnel Department will send out the brochure to all our vessels via email which will then be printed and distributed amongst the crew. An electronic PDF version of the brochure can also be accessed through the Marisec website at: www.marisec.org



In 2010, IMO Member States agreed that the unique contribution made by seafarers from all over the world to international seaborne trade, the world economy and civil society as a whole, should be marked annually with a “Day of the Seafarer”.

The date chosen was 25 June, the day on which milestone revisions to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (the STCW Convention) and its associated Code were adopted at a Diplomatic Conference in Manila, the Philippines.

This year the aim was to pay tribute to the world’s 1.5 million seafarers and also to educate the public about issues facing the modern-day seafarer—issues such as piracy. But most importantly, it is an opportunity for us to say “Thank you, Seafarers”.

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MEET MSM OFFICE PERSONNEL

I was born and raised in Limassol. I studied at Frederick Institute of Technology where I earned my diploma in Computer Studies. I worked as an IT administrator for a period 5 years in the Shipping Industry and then in Computer Sales/Marketing for 5 years as well. Thereafter, I worked as Technical Administrator at ISN for 3 years.

I joined Mastermind in January 2011 as Technical Administrator.

I'm married and I have a lovely son 9 years old. In my free time I enjoy going to the gym, reading and spending time with my family and friends.



My name is Antonis Ioannou and since November 2010 I am the Mastermind Group's Chief Financial Officer. Prior to my employment with Mastermind I was an auditor with Deloitte Ltd for three years. I have a BSc degree in Accounting and Finance from University of Warwick in the UK and from September 2011 I am a Chartered Accountant(ACA), full member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

I am very fond of my work and always try to do the best for our valuable seafarers and the Group in general. My strategy is always to work as a team and the seafarers are a valuable part of the Mastermind team. My position's purpose is to safeguard the Group's financial assets and make sure all the financial affairs of the Group are settled. This means the seafarers' payroll process is part of my responsibility and the Accounts Department in general.

On my spare time I enjoy watching and playing football. I also like watching movies and go to the cinema. I also enjoy sailing whenever I have the chance .



Born in the Spring of 1979 and raised in the coastal city of Limassol. Wife, and a mother to an adorable 3 year old daughter.

My career has always been directly related to Shipping, since after completing my maritime studies at Frederick University I started working in 2002 and up to today, as a Purchasing Officer in the Shipping Industry.

Namely, I worked with V Ships, Dobson Fleet Management (DFM), Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), and currently part of the well esteemed Mastermind Ship Management (MSM) company and specifically responsible for the Purchasing Department.

In my free time I enjoy swimming and spending quality time with my family.



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Next Issue in September 2011

- ◆ Letter from the MD
- ◆ Meet more staff at MSM HQ
- ◆ ...and much more...

Pssst... to be featured in next issue send your stories to Christina Myrianthous now!!!