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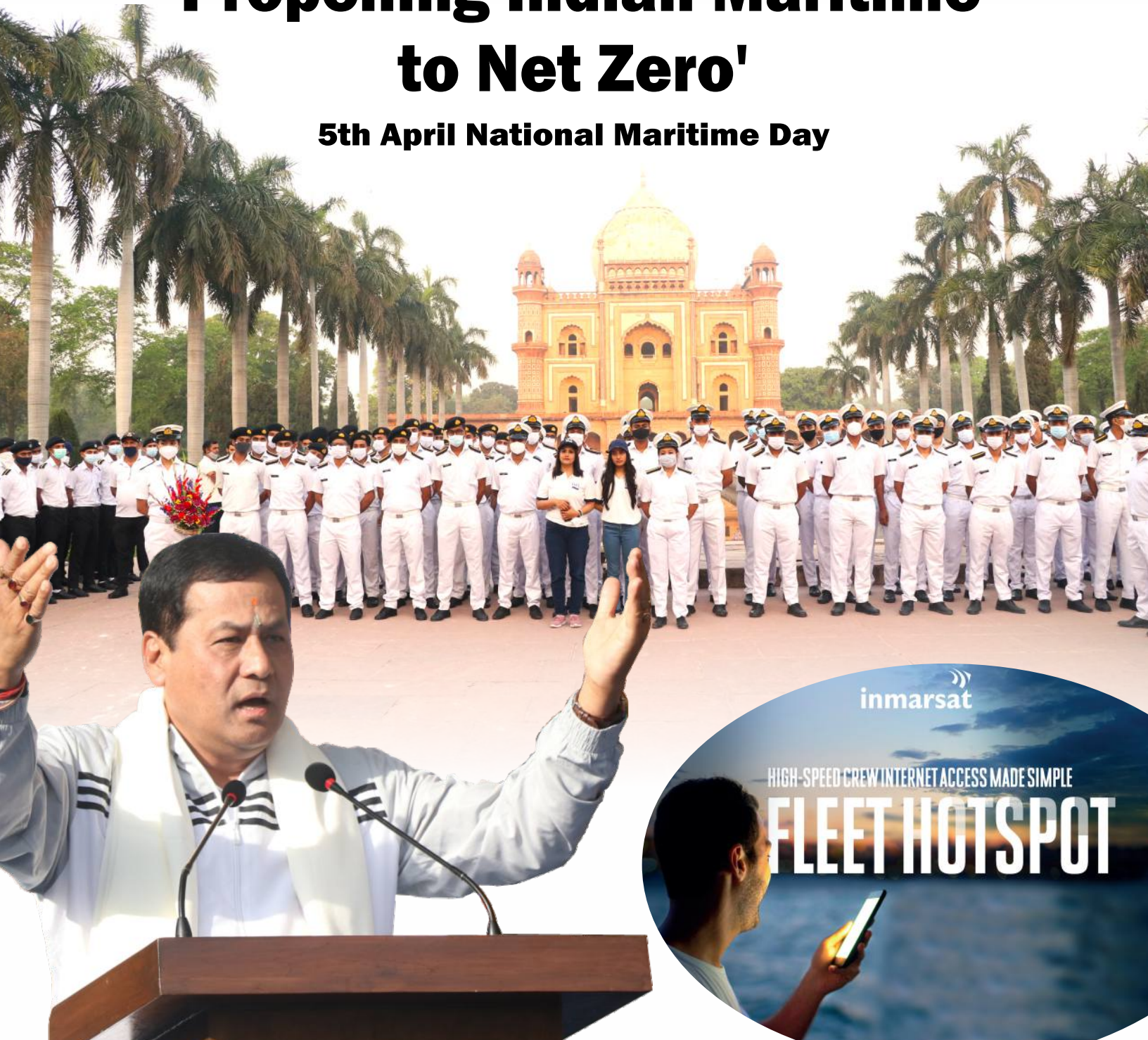
APRIL 2022

# Sailor Today

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## 'Propelling Indian Maritime to Net Zero'

5th April National Maritime Day





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# 'Propelling Indian Maritime to Net Zero'

**5th April National Maritime Day**



The day, as most are aware, is celebrated to raise awareness about India's Maritime sector. It is dedicated to recall the role of Maritime trade in the development of the

Indian economy and the role of India and its strategic location in global trade. It further recalls the need for defending and preserving the country's maritime zone.



Historically, this day is celebrated to commemorate the maiden voyage of the first Indian commercial vessel SS Loyalty that set sail from Bombay (Mumbai) to London on 5th April, 1919.

The theme adopted for this year's celebration was 'Propelling Indian Maritime to Net Zero'.



Flagging off the celebrations, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, emphasised the important contribution of seafarers during the tough Covid times in making the country self-reliant and keeping the global supply chain operational.

Applauding the role played by Indian seafarers in keeping the global supply chain operational he shared that even during the height of Covid-19 pandemic more than 210,000 Indian seafarers served on Indian and foreign ships in 2021.

As the National Maritime Day was celebrated across the nation, 'Merchant Navy Week' celebration by Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai, came to a close with a glittering ceremony at Domestic Cruise Terminus, Mumbai Port Trust.





Chief Guest and Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shripad Y. Naik congratulated all stakeholders of maritime fraternity on the occasion. He mentioned that gender equality in Indian maritime sector is our prime objective. He also shared a detailed account of steps taken to increase the participation of women in maritime sector. At present, India has 3000 women in active employment in the sector.

He also stressed upon the need to foster academic partnerships with leading global Maritime Universities and take Training and Skill enhancement of Indian maritime institutes to global standards so as to achieve the goals of Maritime Vision 2030. He apprised the maritime fraternity about various steps taken by the government for

the promotion of tonnage under Indian Flag.

At present there are 156 maritime training institutes in the country. Indian maritime response to Covid-19 pandemic was exemplary, he said. On enhancing maritime skills, the minister informed that collaborating with IITs and leading education institutions in maritime sector will further help bring in skilled maritime human resources. Maritime sector is a key industry for achieving Aatma Nirbhar Bharat, the Minister added.



On the occasion, a Coffee Table Book on 'Dufferin, Rajendra, Chanakya' was also released. TS Dufferin (1927-72), TS Rajendra (1972-93) and TS Chanakya (1993 – till date) are the Training Ships of the Indian Maritime University, Mumbai. While Dufferin and Rajendra were actual floating ships, TS Chanakya is a shore based training





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academy in Navi Mumbai offering various training programmes including the much sought after B.Sc (Nautical Sciences) degree.

Director General of Shipping Amitabh Kumar in his keynote address mentioned that the path towards net-zero target in the maritime sector would require to deliberate upon the overall operational supply chain including ports, future alternate fuels, technological modifications in ships, revamped logistics requirements

and proper training and sensitization of the seafarer in particular and the whole maritime sector in general. He mentioned that the Directorate is in the process of implementing online Certificate of Competency examination for Seafarers and establishment of Maritime Knowledge Cluster to drive coordinated and collaborative research in maritime field.

During the program, Sagar Samman Awards were also conferred.



Sagar Samman Award for  
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Earlier in the day, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, in a series of tweets recalled India's glorious maritime history on National Maritime Day. Stating the importance of maritime sector towards India's economic growth, he said that in the last eight years the Government of India has focused on port-led development which includes expanding



port capacities and making the existing systems even more efficient. He further said that waterways were being harnessed to ensure Indian products get access to new markets. He also emphasized that Government of India is taking adequate care to ensure the marine eco-system and diversity.

## NMD Celebrations at the Capital

A Walkathon was organised by NMDCC, Delhi, to celebrate the 59th National Maritime Day on Tuesday, 5th April, 2022, under the aegis of the Directorate General of Shipping, the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India.

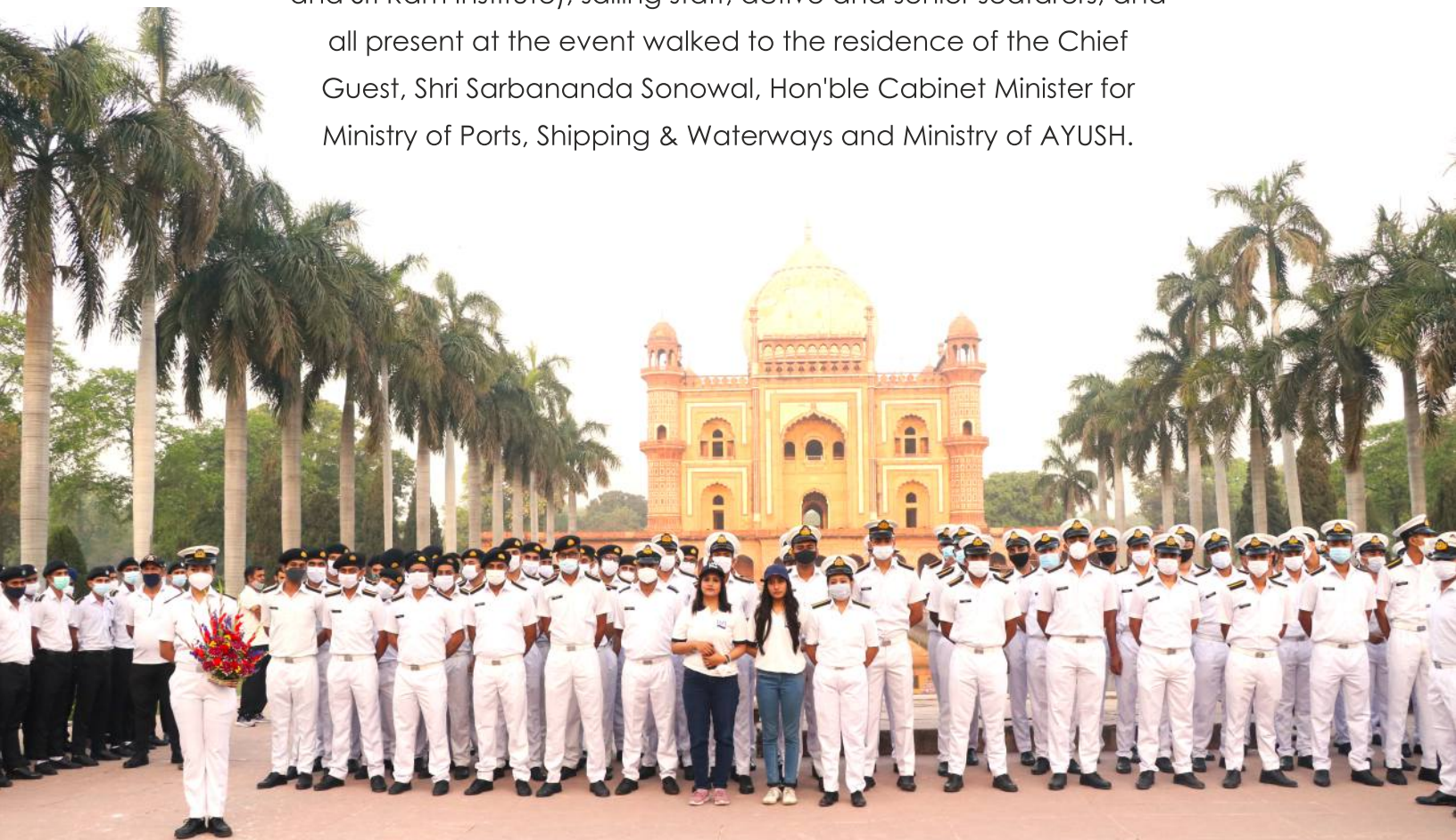




The Walkathon, which started early morning from the Safdarjung Tomb, was flagged off by the Guest of Honor, Hon'ble Minister of State for the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Shantanu Thakur, who was welcomed with a bouquet and was presented a memento featuring SS Loyalty. Greeting those present, he encouraged the cadets to work hard and wished them the very best for their future endeavours.



Cadets from Maritime Training Institutes (IMI, Aquatech, J.Sons, ARI and Sri Ram Institute), sailing staff, active and senior seafarers, and all present at the event walked to the residence of the Chief Guest, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister for Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ministry of AYUSH.







Shri Sarbananda Sonowal was greeted with a warm welcome, including a loud round of applause from the cadets and dignitaries, followed by a bouquet and a memento, presented by Capt. Ashok Kohli, the Chairman of IMI.

International Maritime Institute's Head Of Institute, Capt. Saurabh Varshney, while addressing the august gathering and greeting the honorable minister said, "The theme of this year's National Maritime Day is Propelling Indian Maritime to Net – Zero. An absolute need of the hour. The phenomenal contribution of the shipping industry and the seafaring fraternity during

the Covid 19 pandemic who toiled ceaselessly to keep the world supply chains working in spite of all the restrictions have been acknowledged throughout the world."

Senior active seafarers Second Officer Nidhi Walia and Chief Officer Akhil Sharma gave inspiring speeches and shared their sailing experiences.

A memento was presented to Dr. K R S Kanwar, DG approved





doctor in Delhi, for his exceptional service as a Covid frontline warrior during the successive waves of pandemic.

Gracing the event with his virtual presence, Director General of Shipping, Shri. Amitabh Kumar IRS, said, "National Maritime Day was the first message of independence given by the Indian Maritime industry during the British era, despite the strict cabotage laws of the time, an Indian entity decided to start Indian shipping and sail its first ship from Mumbai to London. This was not only a 'commercial activity'. It was an announcement to the government of the day that we as Indians would charter our own course," said Shri Amitabh Kumar in his virtual address to the gathering.



Addressing the audience, Shri Sonowal said "Let me take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our Indian seafarers who risked their lives and performed their best for the nation even during the tough COVID times making India Self-reliant. This ensured that in spite of the huge challenges they faced, our Indian seafarers

courageously continued to keep India's Flag flying high throughout the world".





Capt Indresh Kharbanda, presenting a vote of thanks on the National Maritime Day and 75 years of Azadi Ka Mahotsava, on behalf of the NMD Celebrations Committee, extended heartfelt gratitude to the esteemed guests, who included, Chief Guest, Honourable Cabinet Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ministry of Ayush, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Guest of Honour, Honourable Minister of State, for Ministry of Ports, Shipping &

Waterways, Shri Shantanu Thakur, DG Shipping Shri Amitabh Kumar, Nautical Advise-Cum-Addl DG to Government of India, Capt KP JayaKumar, Chairman NMDCC & Surveyor-in-Charge MMD NOIDA, Capt Rajendra Poswal, Mr. Vikram Singh, Joint Secretary Shipping, Mr. Bhushan Kumar, Joint Secretary Sagarmala project, Chairmen of all Ports & all dignitaries present from Ministry of Shipping.

Commending the efforts of the shipping community as a whole, he said, "The threat of Covid has not yet been eradicated. Despite that, we have shown courage, capability and consensus in coming together to take it head-on, to not only survive; but be victorious in our functionality."

Stressing on a very important point, he further said, "All of this would not have been possible without foresight and support of the government mechanism under the leadership of respected Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, who led

the nation through the grave situation. It has been visible at all levels; from Ministry of Shipping, DG Shipping and all the MMDs, who collectively had ONE FOCUS – the well-being, safety and continued success of Indian seafarers, as top priority."

"From arranging repatriation from foreign ports; guarantying quarantine measures on arrival and ensuring that seafarers interest in appearing for exams is not jeopardised in any way; it has been a very long journey for the government mechanism. " He concluded.

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# CREW COMMS CRITICAL IN CHALLENGING TIMES

Crew communications are widely accepted as an important element of seafarer welfare provision and vessel operators are now prioritising onboard systems to enable crew to keep in touch with home. The crisis in Ukraine and the Covid-19 pandemic have highlighted the vital need for internet access and contact with home, while seafarer surveys regularly identify connectivity as a key factor in onboard happiness, recruitment and retention.

The vital role played by crew connectivity in seafarer wellbeing was underscored recently when the International Maritime Organization (IMO) approved measures aimed at enhancing crew communications for seafarers impacted by the conflict in Ukraine. These measures were put forward by a number of maritime industry groups and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) – demonstrating the strength of feeling within the whole maritime industry that crew should be able to communicate

with home and loved ones and have access to information sources while at sea.

The IMO Council welcomed the proposal that a number of steps should be taken to reduce the suffering of seafarers and their families, including that: "seafarers affected by the conflict should be allowed free access to communications with their families".

The Covid-19 pandemic, and more recently the crisis in Ukraine, have underscored the vital importance of crew communications on seafarer mental health. And crew health and well-being is an important factor in maritime business operations. Crew represent the largest ship operating costs and the International Maritime Health Association (IMHA) has found that one in five ships has to divert due to crew illness every year, at an average cost per ship of \$180,000.

The need for crew communications is strongly evident. At the peak of the pandemic, maritime charity ISWAN, which provides 24-hour multilingual helplines for seafarers and their families, reported it handled more than 2,000 calls in just one month – triple the number for the same period before the Covid-19 outbreak. ISWAN's project manager Caitlin Vaughan noted that crew communications are particularly important at times of significant

family events that the seafarer is unable to be present for, during times of cultural celebration, or to alleviate homesickness.

Connectivity is vitally important to seafarers and it is good to note that greater availability is improving health and well-being. The latest Seafarer Happiness report from Mission to Seafarers found that the current happiness level in relation to connectivity at sea is 6.92 out of 10, up from 6.6. The report states: "Today internet on board is vital. Nobody will stay onboard with poor, expensive, or ineffective network systems."

Having crew comms at sea is now recognised as a key factor in recruitment and retention and crew surveys have revealed that some crew would change jobs for better internet access even if there was no extra salary on offer. Other industry surveys have identified a clear divide between vessels that provide free or cost-effective access, versus those that do not, with increasing numbers of seafarers stating that they check what access they will have before accepting new contracts – a trend widely predicted to grow. For example, the Futureonautics 2017 survey reported 92% of seafarers said connectivity strongly or very strongly influenced their choice of employer.

But what happens when your vessel is



smaller, has little space for communications systems, or budgets are limited?

That's where compact and versatile systems come into their own. MarineStar E-lite is one such solution, delivering voice and data connectivity in a package that is specially optimised for smaller vessels.

Voice services are delivered over Thuraya's MarineStar terminal while encrypted email provision comes via IEC Telecom's OneMailLite application.

Quick and easy to install, MarineStar E-Lite enables crew welfare communication as well as reliable access to navigation updates, port notifications, operational instructions, and continuous tracking and monitoring. With fleetwide management control, separate lines for corporate and crew communications, and flexible crew-calling plans, MarineStar E-Lite is a cost-effective alternative to radio and GSM.

Nabil Ben Soussia, Group CCO, President Asia, Middle East and CIS for IEC Telecom, observed: "No-one

wants to be away from home at a time of crisis but for many seafarers that is an every day fact of life. Being able to keep in touch with family, friends and world news is essential to them and we are pleased to be able to play a part in delivering that communication, especially in these uncertain times."

In support of impacted seafarers and their families, IEC Telecom, which has a long history of helping humanitarian efforts, has also significantly reduced its call charges to Ukraine making it easier for vessel operators to provide crucial crew communications.

Mr Ben Soussia commented: "In today's



competitive marketplace it is important to keep pace with workplace developments. Crew connectivity is now a must and something crew, especially younger members, expect. Technology has moved on and now that it is possible to meet those needs even on smaller vessels with limited space or budgets, why wouldn't you? After all, a happy

crew is important to your vessel's





# Impact of Seafarer Behaviour

The test of Signal's app onboard BSMD-managed vessels not only improved crew decisions with regards to fuel consumption, but also aimed to boost seafarers' morale and wellbeing due to ongoing communication and personal interaction.

***As part of a research and development project, Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement (BSM) has for the first time investigated the influence of the behavioural change of individual seafarers on carbon emissions on selected ships managed by BSM Deutschland (BSMD).***

Teaming up with London-based clean-tech company Signal, BSM studied how

individual behavioural change can lead to a reduction in ships' energy demand and carbon emissions. This is done by combining the analysis of operational data from selected BSMD managed vessels with cutting-edge behavioural science in an app and tailored communications developed by Signal.

During the research project, which ran in the second half of 2021, 60 masters and chief engineers on 28 vessels under full management of BSMD were invited to take part in the trial on a voluntary basis. During this time, each participating crew member received individualised targets via the Signal app which are calculated based on the seafarer's prior performance. Every week, the participating seafarers received updates on their personal milestones and



achievements via the app and email. Through a combination of fair targets and positive feedback, Signol gently nudged individual masters and chief engineers to implement fuel-saving practices.

### ***Seafarers can be nudged to have an impact***

The analysis of the pilot tests revealed promising results on single vessels which need to be verified by further tests. The R&D project proved that seafarers can be nudged and become aware of their individual influence on major challenges.

Nick Topham, managing director of BSM Deutschland, noted, "I am pleased with the overall outcome of the pilot project as it proved our hypothesis that seafarers are not only important key workers, but also play a valuable role in the decarbonisation of the shipping industry. We are impressed by the individual efforts of all participating captains and chief engineers to reduce fuel consumption and CO2 emissions. In the long run, it can provide a great added value to our owners and charterers' operations, and to the achievement of climate targets."

Niklas Körner, investment manager at Innoport, said: "The first results are very encouraging and prove Signol's product-

market fit in maritime. There is still a lot to understand about how to use behavioural change in the most effective way toward greener shipping. Applying behavioural science to vessel operations is an exciting new field for the Schulte Group which requires further research and development work to deliver even more reliable results."

Dan White, CEO and co-founder at Signol, commented: "The human side of operational efficiency is arguably now a crucial contributor to reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). This ground-breaking work in shipping shows just how important seafarers are to our global environmental objectives and what happens when we empower them with the right feedback. These results create direct value for the environment, for business, and for the crew, and we can't wait to work with more innovative shipping companies to deal with GHG abatement in line with the objectives for climate change."

To better evaluate the benefits and opportunities of behavioural science, BSM intends to strengthen its collaboration with Signol and to conduct further tests with interested partners. The aim is to review and harness all possibilities to reduce the carbon footprint: technical, operational, and indeed behavioural.

# KVH AgilePlans Marks Fifth Anniversary



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changed five years ago when KVH introduced AgilePlans® Connectivity as a Service, an innovative, all-inclusive communications subscription service.

“We set out to remove the CAPEX barrier



and enable accelerated deployment of communications systems aboard vessels around the world," says Mark Woodhead, KVH executive vice president of mobile connectivity. "As we celebrate AgilePlans' fifth birthday, we believe that we are achieving that goal."

"Thousands of vessels now rely on AgilePlans and its all-inclusive subscription for high-bandwidth, affordable connectivity for operations and crew, all carried on our worldwide network of high-throughput satellites (HTS) from our partner, Intelsat. And while maritime connectivity aggregators have tried to mimic AgilePlans, no other provider offers the same compelling package of integrated hardware and airtime blended with crew wellbeing and operations content, free shipping and installation, zero maintenance costs, and more. In addition, we'll soon be adding SPORTSlink™ Stats, an innovative new real-time statistics feature for major sports, as a no-cost benefit for crew wellbeing via AgilePlans."

A key to AgilePlans' appeal for fleets and shipmanagers is the flexibility it offers with a simple monthly subscription, no commitment, and the ability to deploy systems rapidly to meet changing operational needs.

"For us, it is very important to work with a

company that is able to provide the ease and flexibility of paying monthly without any commitment worries," Holger Borchers, IT manager for Briesse Schifffahrt, recently explained after the shipmanager selected AgilePlans for use aboard more than 35 vessels. "It shows that KVH understands the commercial maritime market and the fact that fleet sizes change." He adds: "KVH AgilePlans provides full coverage of all fees in one price, and we have found working with KVH to be seamless."

The fast, reliable VSAT connectivity that AgilePlans delivers is also valued for IoT connectivity by fleets who are seeing the cost benefits of real-time data for IoT/remote support applications such as remote equipment monitoring, remote tech support, vessel tracking, voyage planning, videoconferencing, and more. These applications are supported using the simultaneous high-speed and unlimited use channels offered by the 60 cm and 1 m KVH TracPhone® HTS-series terminals available as part of an AgilePlans subscription.

KVH's HTS network utilizes Intelsat's FlexMaritime service to deliver global multi-layered coverage, enabling vessels to see multiple HTS and wide beam satellites for maximum availability of broadband service.

# SUPPORT SEAFARERS IMPACTED BY WAR

Columbia Shipmanagement, together with its owning company and its clients, have raised an unprecedented €1.4 million and assembled a team of 320 psychologists, mostly from Ukraine, to aid traumatised families of seafarers who have been impacted by the war in Ukraine.

The package of measures, financed by the newly set-up Columbia and Clients Charitable Fund, will help to provide accommodation as well as professional psychological support, to traumatised seafarers and their families at designated 'Columbia Sanctuaries' in Poland and Romania.

Mental Health Support Solutions (MHSS), providers of professional mental health support to the maritime sector, has drawn together the team of 320 psychologists which will be on hand to assist seafarer families suffering from the effects of the war in Ukraine.



CSM has taken over a hotel in Romania and two villas in Poland which will act as safe harbours for families waiting to go through the Visa and immigration process. The families are welcome to stay for up to six months while their applications are processed.



"My only requisite was that the accommodation had security guards on the doors to protect the women and children coming in. We have set up these sanctuaries for six months, all fully paid for, and the families will receive food, accommodation and clothing. Then, via the work of MHSS, we are also able to provide the necessary psychological support," said Mark O'Neil, President and CEO of Columbia Shipmanagement.

He added: "The war in Ukraine has impacted many members of our maritime community. I'm so proud of what the industry has been able to achieve through this joint action to raise funds so we can support seafarers and their families during this incredibly difficult and challenging time.

"The situation in Ukraine is deeply distressing, far more so for those directly impacted, and providing accommodation and psychological help is the least we can do. We all stand united in our support for all seafarers and families impacted by this



terrible conflict.

"I have said from the start, it is all about the victims of the conflict, whether they are Ukrainian, Russian, Georgian or Filipino, it doesn't matter. They are the victims. And when we set up the Columbia and Clients Charitable Fund, Schoeller Holding, our shareholder, and CSM each put in \$500K. Some of our clients and staff contributed to the extent that we now have upwards of

\$1.3m-\$1.4m in the fund. The guiding principle was that the fund should not be bureaucratic as we wanted to put cash in the hands of those who needed cash without having to constantly reconcile the money," Mr O'Neil stressed.

As part of its initiative, CSM has also set up four rendezvous points, one in Russia, one in Ukraine, one in Poland and one in Romania for any families that may need food, clothing or accommodation. "These rendezvous points are there to thrust cash into the hands of those who need it and assistance is there to help get them through the asylum system. This rendezvous

programme has been extended, via InterManager, to any seafarer families employed by other ship management companies on a reciprocal basis," Mr O'Neil added.

He added: "Raising the money is not the issue here, it is what you do with the money. You need viable projects, and this is a good way of delivering help where help is needed. We are also looking at setting up a charity that can work on a wider scale, after the flow of refugees has abated, to offer the long-term psychological help the victims of the conflict will need."



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# CASA SC 27th Interim Meeting 2022 held

On 21st April 2022, the 27th Interim Meeting of the Seafarers Committee (SC), Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA), was held virtually. The Meeting was attended by Mr. Yuichi Sonada, ASA Secretary-General, Mr. Zhang Shouguo, Executive Vice Chairman of China Shipowners' Association (CSA) and more than 30 other delegates from ASA member associations of China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and FASA as represented by the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The ASA Competition Law Competition Statement was announced at the meeting to ensure full compliance with all applicable competition laws throughout the entire programme.

## DEVELOPMENT OF ASIAN SEAFARERS

The Committee is pleased to note that administrations of ASA members are continuing their efforts as ever before to attract more young people to seek a sea-going career, which will greatly assist in the continued promotion of the supply and

employment of Asian seafarers.

In some Asian countries and regions, however, there are fewer and fewer young people willing to work as seafarers. As a result, the number of third mates and fourth engineer officers is decreasing significantly, and the subsequent supply of seafarers is insufficient. Undoubtedly, the epidemic will be accelerating the loss of seafarers, especially young seafarers.

This situation would result in difficult development, retention and employment of competent seafarers in future. Therefore, more efforts need to be made by all the stakeholders of the shipping industry.

## THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON SEAFARERS

Among the topics discussed, ASA SC recognized that, the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic has led to travel restrictions in many ports of the

world, caused difficulties in crew change and ship operations, and resulted in the

decline of seafarers' social status, wellbeing and willingness of going to sea. Meanwhile, extended period of service on board and denied access to shore leave and medical care in some ports during the Covid-19 Pandemic have increased seafarers' mental health problem, which has jeopardized seafarers' wellbeing as enshrined in the MLC 2006.

The Seafarers' Committee therefore urges the stakeholders of the shipping industry to take measures to ensure seafarers' welfare in according to the MLC 2006, thereby attracting and retaining seafarers to remain in the industry.

## THE APPLICATION OF DIGITALIZATION IN THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY

ASA SC further recognized the ever-

increasing importance of digitalization and intelligence, their application and role in the shipping industry and, in particular, their impact on seafarers. ASA SC noted that smart ships of certain autonomy degrees have been built and put into operation for a trial purpose in some countries and that the International Maritime Organization is formulating the roadmap of modernizing its regulatory instruments in order to accommodate the operation of smart ships. ASA SC will keep a close watch on the development in this area and maintain it as a standing agenda item for consideration in the future sessions.

The ASA Seafarers' Committee (SC) is a forum for the ASA member Associations to discuss issues relating to seafarers' development, capacity-building, welfare, wellbeing and other entitlements in accordance with MLC 2006 and STCW Convention, both as amended.

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# New Acquisition



J M Baxi Heavy Private Limited has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Allcargo Logistics Limited's Project Forwarding & Logistics Business. It has also provided a binding offer to Lift and Shift India Private Limited (Lift and Shift), to acquire its heavy and over-dimension cargo logistics business. Lift and Shift has accepted the binding offer, which is subject to the execution of a definitive agreement for the business transfer between the parties. Both transactions are subject to completion, which is expected in the coming weeks. On completion, both businesses will merge into J M Baxi Heavy Pvt. Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of J M Baxi Ports & Logistics Limited.

Lift & Shift brings with it, a specialization in

engineered logistics services for the niche and growing category of super-heavy lifting, shifting and multimodal transportation. It caters to sectors such as petrochemicals, hydrocarbon, fertilisers, renewable energy, power generation, civil construction, large-scale manufacturing and prominently offshore oil & gas industry. Together, J M Baxi Heavy and Lift & Shift will have the largest fleet of specialty equipment for over-dimensional & heavy cargo logistics like Self Propelled Modular Trailers (SPMT), barges and lifting equipment. This will enable JM Baxi Heavy to reach a wider customer base, improve its service proposition and create synergies in efficiency building, while being able to mobilise equipment and personnel swiftly, anywhere within India.

Allcargo's Project Forwarding and Logistics business will add to J M Baxi Heavy's existing network with enhanced geographical presence in the Indian sub-continent and Africa, as well as diverse clientele in the Project Forwarding and Logistics sector. Additionally, backed by its excellence in customised lifting and transportation solutions, Allcargo's expertise in project forwarding and long-haul transportation of heavy/over-dimension cargo will further bolster JM Baxi Heavy's existing strengths in this segment.

Dhruv Kotak, Managing Director, J M Baxi Group said, "The Indian economy has strong fundamentals for growth, and this acquisition comes at a time where there is an upsurge in capital expenditure in various sectors in the country. We are just beginning to see the cycle turn. The next decade will see momentum in demand bolstered by the National Infrastructure Pipeline with a size of US\$1.5 trillion. The acquisition of the two business divisions of Allcargo and Lift & Shift will add immense value, weave in synergies with the current line of business at J M Baxi Heavy and expand opportunities for the organization to be present in high growth categories. Through this, we will be able to cater to our customers across the infrastructure space in the Indian and African sub-continent. The acquisitions will further strengthen, JM Baxi's strategy for long term growth and enable

us to continue being an active participant in the Indian growth narrative."

Adarsh Hegde, Joint Managing Director, Allcargo Logistics, said, "India, today, is looking ahead to bold business targets. Achieving them definitely needs robust infrastructure development, and JM Baxi Group has truly proved its capabilities in contributing to it. Allcargo and JM Baxi are happy to partner with each other in making this transaction successful. This will be good for industry, customers and employees as businesses and capabilities come together. At Allcargo, this exit is aligned with our strategy to focus on Allcargo Group's core business.

I have no doubt that the new entity under JM Baxi Group leadership will play a key role in the project logistics support for infrastructure development, not just in India but also other developing countries. My best wishes to the teams!"

Romil Parikh, Director, Lift & Shift, added: "The merger of our company into the J M Baxi fold has exciting potential for us. There is a strong demand for end-to-end solutions and with the largest specialised equipment fleet on the subcontinent coupled with J M Baxi's terminal infrastructure we are confident that we will be able to add tremendous value to our clients."



# GREEN RELATIONSHIP STRENGTHENED

Oldendorff Carriers has deepened its ongoing relationship with Yara Marine Technologies by agreeing the installation of U-type scrubbers on two newbuild capesize vessels.

Torsten Barenthin, Oldendorff Carriers' Director of Innovation, and

Aleksander Askeland, Yara Marine Technologies' (YMT) Chief Sales Officer, have signed an agreement for the first installation of YMT's new U-type SOx scrubbers on board two bulk carriers at the Nor-Shipping conference and exhibition in Oslo on Wednesday, 6 April 2022. This follows in the footsteps of previous contracts that have seen YMT install scrubbers and perform MARPOL compliance testing on 96 Oldendorff vessels.

Torsten Barenthin says: "We are pleased to



further strengthen our collaboration with Yara Marine Technologies, which began in February 2018. Equipping over 90 vessels with SOx scrubbers in less than two years was an enormously challenging project and we have been extremely satisfied with the results – allowing us close to

99% uptime. Given the high-quality performance of the existing scrubbers, it is no surprise that we have chosen Yara Marine as our partner for scrubber installations on our two incoming capesize bulk carriers Alice Oldendorff and Austyn Oldendorff."

Aleksander Askeland says: "We are very happy with Oldendorff Carrier's decision to install our U-type scrubbers on their new vessels, marking 98 vessels fitted with our scrubbers so far. There is no bigger compliment to the hard work of our

technical team than when an existing customer chooses to equip their fleet with more of our products. We look forward to hitting the 100-vessel mark in the future and helping the Oldendorff fleet continue to improve its environmental performance. As we widen our portfolio of innovative and cost-effective green technologies, we look forward to closer collaboration."

Scrubbers offer a sustainable way for any existing fleet operating on heavy fuel oil (HFO) or a hybrid of very low sulphur fuel oil (VLSFO) and HFO to comply with global regulations on sulphur emissions. Many ship operators have also embraced scrubbers as a means to meet emissions targets and manage fuel costs, given the uncertainty of fuel prices and availability of low-sulphur fuels.

YMT's scrubber portfolio encompasses in-line scrubbers (I-type and L-type) and packed bed scrubbers (U-type), with open-loop, closed-loop and hybrid options. New generation systems also benefit from Yara Marine's Ratio Control system, which actively prevents over-scrubbing and reduces operational costs significantly. Older vessels can have the Ratio Control system added to their scrubbers via a software update.

As a strong advocate for a greener and cleaner future, YMT has expanded its portfolio over the past year to include vessel optimization solutions, wind-assisted propulsion, and turn-key shore power solutions.



**Aleksander Askeland, CSO, Yara Marine Technologies**



# SCRAPPING LEVELS LIKELY TO REMAIN HIGH

Vessel scrapping activity this year is likely to mirror the continuing rise in scrap prices, but a lot will depend on movements in the freight markets, order book levels, as well as new vessel deliveries and the anticipated return on investment on existing engine modifications, according to Johann Meyer, Managing Director of CSM Energy.

The shipping industry continues to remain unaligned on the best solution going forward, environmentally and commercially, with some owners likely to favour engine modifications of existing tonnage, instead of recycling, as they seek to follow industry developments before committing to any new building contracts. They may want to keep up the minimum emissions requirements while also taking advantage of market rises, he said.

"It is impossible to predict long-term market developments of future fuels given the various influencing factors. The actual uncertainty of the industry started up a kind of vigilant phase where the majority of new orders or modifications are heading towards alternatives but still using carbon fuels - where the ultimate goal should be usage of zero carbon fuels in future.

"Development of the recycling industry in this

respect, will depend on the potential middle phase of carbon neutral fuels which would mean a slight increase in activity. The ultimate change to zero carbon tonnage will force a major increase in recycling activity and this will, most probably, be close to the lifecycle end of the newbuilding orders using carbon fuels," he said.

Scrap prices will continue to rise this year but become stable at a higher level throughout the year, he added. "This all depends on the market, negative or positive as well as the political situation. Container rates are still flying high and owners are better off selling their tonnage or riding the wave of daily time charter rates. Whereas the tanker market is likely to pick up more as expected, so owners will try to keep their tonnage or buy in cheaper units on a speculative basis," he said.



**JOHANN MEYER**  
Managing Director, CSM Energy

Mr Meyer said the current regulations and conventions are building the foundation for the necessary changes in the ship breaking market. "While environment, social and governance are the right additional tools to introduce, evaluate and thrust the important mind set change of the industry – it can only happen if companies are taking it with the required seriousness and not as a marketing campaign."



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