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Rapid deployment of medical and logistics staff by HOPE Consortium

Launches in-country support services by combining vaccine delivery with deployment of medical & logistics personnel and equipment to eliminate vaccine wastage, bridge the global immunisation divide - In support of countries, communities with limited medical and logistical capacities

Abu Dhabi's HOPE Consortium, which offers one of the most capable and effective vaccine supply chains in the world, has extended its value proposition to include incountry vaccination services with the aim of accelerating global immunisation and eliminating vaccine wastage.

The new solution is unique in the COVID-19 immunisation space as it combines end-to-end vaccine delivery with rapid on-ground deployment of medical and logistics experts, staff and equipment. The combined service will enable countries and communities with limited medical and logistical capacities to absorb the delivered vaccine supplies and inoculate their populations safely and efficiently, with minimal disruption to operations of the local health delivery services.

The HOPE Consortium has partnered with Via Medica International Healthcare, a leading global health care provider with a strong track record in international medical support work to deliver the services.

Working together, the partners are combining the HOPE Consortium's unique end-to-end supply chain solution with Via Medica's proven capability to deploy onground medical experts, immunisation management teams, and equipment.

In Africa, the partners have already begun implementing stage one of the programme, which includes assesing existing on-ground logistics and medical capabilities and infrastructure, and initial deployment of a mobile team of 15 members. The team includes doctors and nurses that work to establish local

immunisation hubs needed to coordinate the administration of the vaccines, maintain patient records and track the progress of national vaccination efforts, in strict adherence to local patient privacy regulations and requirements.

In the second stage, the programme will be scaled up to include a team of up to 40 members tasked with setting-up regional vaccination centres equipped with medical equipment and supplies, storage freezers for vaccines and power generation units. Two fully equipped mobile vaccination vehicles, airlifted from Abu Dhabi, will augment the team's reach beyond the established regional vaccination centres.

The partners are also deploying logistics experts to ensure that the sensitive vaccine supplies are stored and handled in the required storage environments, thus minimising the risk of vaccine wastage. Two additional refrigerated vehicles will support the logistical component of the effort by transporting vaccines from the hub to the immunisation spokes to provide ample vaccine supplies and maintain the momentum of the effort.

In order to "future proof" the effort, the HOPE Consortium's team will be training

the local medical and logistical staff to ensure that local immunisation drives can continue on an efficient course.

Captain Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi, Chairman of the Executive Committee, HOPE Consortium, and Group CEO, Abu Dhabi Ports, said:

"The combination of Abu Dhabi's proximity to two-thirds of the globe and our strategic logistics capabilities, allow us to not only deliver millions of vaccines to those in need, but also make sure that every vaccine brings us closer to our collective victory against the pandemic. Through our new in-country support initiative, we recognise the needs of individual countries and, in turn, tailor our services to the capabilities of their healthcare infrastructure through a complete end-to-end solution.

"By doing so, we can manage the global supply and demand imbalances and help provide for equitable access to the vaccines for millions of people around the world. We are very pleased to be in a position to offer this additional pathway that helps bridge the emerging gap in global vaccination rates and chart a path towards a global recovery."

Robert Sutton, Head of Logistics

Cluster, Abu Dhabi Ports, said: "The launch of our in-country support service is a recognition that delivering vaccines alone is simply not enough, and that we need to go one step further. While the global community stands united in our common need for the vaccines, many parts of the world may not have the capacity nor expertise to absorb these sensitive supplies safely and efficiently. This leads to potential vaccine wastage which is a major problem at a time when the global demand greatly outstrips the global supply. This is why together with our partners at Via Medica, the HOPE Consortium is working closely with countries and communities on-ground to deliver a sustainable immunisation solution. that ensures that every vaccine delivered is a vaccine administered.

"The introduction of the service is a clear demonstration of our commitment and capability to deploy our resources rapidly and develop a coordinated, collaborative and scalable model that will help inoculate those in need regardless of where in the world they may find themselves. We look forward to working with other partners, countries and communities in delivering on our common goal of mass and equitable global immunisation."



The HOPE Consortium is a public-private partnership that has evolved into a leading international effort, broadening its global transport and delivery of all kinds of vaccines capabilities by attracting new partners including Agility, Aramex, Bolloré Logistics, CEVA Logistics, DB Schenker, DHL, FedEx Express, Expeditors, Hellmann, Kuehne + Nagel, MICCORSA Global, UPS, and Via Medica.

Frank Ludick, CEO-International of

Via Medica, said: "Since the emergence of COVID-19, Via Medica has been at the forefront of the global battle against the pandemic, deploying multiple mobile vaccination teams across Abu Dhabi and the UAE. Via Medica has been instrumental in supporting various governments and private sector companies with the provision of turnkey solutions, from serological testing to onsite mass RT-PCR swabbing and testing, combined with onsite COVID-19 vaccinations.

"We are pleased of our partnership with

the HOPE Consortium and to bring our expertise and innovations to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. We aim to counter the risks associated with a pandemic like COVID-19 through our rapid medical deployment teams, in-country temperature control procedures, and robust and integrated IT systems. Combining the Hope Consortium's unique logistical capabilities and geographical proximity to 3.6 billion people, with Via Medica's capabilities as a last mile provider, we are mitigating potential vaccine spoilage and ensuring that vital vaccine supplies can reach the global community in the time of need."

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FREE COVID-19 JABS TO SEAFARERS

Crew services specialist Boers has launched seafarer vaccination programmes at German and Belgian ports, as shipping executives warn of onboard Covid-19 outbreaks because mariners are not getting vaccines quick enough.

Seafarers arriving at ports in Antwerp, Ghent and Zeebrugge can get one-shot Covid-19 jabs through Boers' scheme, which is being launched to protect key workers in the shipping industry.

The Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine will be available free of charge until further notice to all mariners of any nationality arriving in Belgium for crew changes.

There is a fee for the medical services provided by the port authorities.

"Getting as many seafarers as possible vaccinated is absolutely vital to supply chains and global markets," said Hans Boers, Co-CEO of Boers, the Netherlands-based shipping crew transport services operator for Northern Europe.

"We've seen with the crew change crisis the challenges shipping companies face in hiring seafarers for their vessels, creating a shortage of available mariners which in turn has led to rising prices for goods, food and petrol as demand outstrips supply.

"For us, the most important thing is making sure crew



members entering Belgian ports have access to free Covid-19 jabs. Protecting seafarers from the virus is paramount – and we have the means to help do that. The more mariners who have the vaccine, the quicker shipping and life in general can return to normal."

Boers recently began
offering free jabs to
mariners at German ports in
Hamburg and
Bremerhaven. The
company also provides
vaccinations at ports in the
Netherlands, albeit for just

Dutch flagged or owned vessels but it plans to extend this service to all seafarers.

While Boers is supporting efforts to vaccinate all seafarers, maritime

executives such as Esben
Poulsson, Chairman of the
International Chamber of
Shipping, say the new delta
strain of Covid-19 has
hampered the g industry.



Poulsson added that crew changes were not happening quickly enough to satisfy increased demand for products, especially from the US and Europe in the lead up to Christmas, putting more pressure on already strained global supply chains. He also criticised government figures for continuing to stick their heads in the sand.

Stephen Cotton, general secretary,
International Transport Workers'
Federation, expressed similar concerns
about the crew change crisis. "The
situation is going from bad to worse," he
said. "We need more than lip service
from governments; we need concrete
action that allows crew changes to be
carried out in a safe manner."



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Meanwhile, IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim has urged IMO member states to support a fair global distribution of Covid-19 vaccines, to ensure seafarers have access to jabs.

"No seafarers should be

left behind or

forced to forgo

their careers because of limited resources in their home country," Lim said. He added that shipping companies needed to provide testina, appropriate PPE and access to medical and sanitation facilities, to protect crew members and prevent the virus spreading.

At Belgian ports, seafarers who want the Covid-19 vaccine must apply at

least 48 hours before their ship is berthed. Application forms, which should include the vessel information, expected time of arrival and details of the mariner wanting the vaccination, must be sent to info@boers-

crewservices.nl.



On receiving the application, the port's maritime medical centre will either confirm or refuse the request. Vaccinations on vessels are available for five or more crew members, with groups of four or less having to go to

the medical centre. Any
Covid-19 jab will be
recorded in the seafarer's
vaccination booklet.

In Germany, Boers offers around 30 shots on Tuesdays and Thursdays and approximately 40

shots on Saturdays
to seafarers at
Hamburg's port.
Details for the
number of
vaccines available
in Bremerhaven
and on what days
are being finalised.

Shipping
companies that
want vaccines for
their seafarers at

German ports need to provide Boers with a crew list, vaccination passport, the vessel's contact details and a patient agreement and information sheet signed by the crew member.

FULL STEAM AHEAD FOR LONDON INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING WEEK

With less than few weeks to go, London International Shipping Week 2021 (LISW21) is steaming ahead to what is set to be the first major in-person maritime industry event for some time.

Taking place from 13 to 17 September, LISW21 will feature significant in-person events, meetings and social gatherings, backed up by a state-of-the-art portal facility which will enable thousands more delegates to join in virtually.

Organised with the full backing of the UK Government, industry leaders and prominent international maritime associations, LISW21 will explore the overarching theme of 'Driving Growth and Recovery in a Disrupted World' – particularly relevant as international trade plans its journey out of the pandemic, adjusts to the UK's Brexit earlier this year, and prepares to meet international environmental targets.

LISW21's Headline Conference will be one of

the highlights of what is promising to be a busy week of high-level discussions, debates and deals. Taking place at the iconic London headquarters of the International Maritime Organisation on Wednesday September 15, the conference will consider the driving principles of Environment, Social, and Governance, and concludes with a spectacular evening rooftop reception overlooking the River Thames, Houses of Parliament and the London skyline.

Delegates planning to take part are urged to register soon for the anticipated 150 events which are filling up fast. Everyone needs to register on the LISW21 portal to access all the latest news, information, and to attend virtual or in-person events, particularly the Headline Conference which will feature high-level debate with some outstanding keynote speakers and panellists. The popular black-tie Gala Dinner, taking place this year at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, is already fully booked, although a waiting list is available.



John Hulmes, chair of the LISW21 Steering Group, said: "It is exciting to finally be able to meet industry peers face-to-face and once again conduct business in the meaningful way we are all used to. We are also thrilled to be able to open the LISW doors to thousands more virtual visitors who may be unable to attend in person due to restrictions, resource or distance. This will give a new perspective to LISW which we very much look forward to."



MID-YEAR OUTLOOK

After more volatility in the first half of 2021, leading shipbroker Simpson Spence Young (SSY) analyses the last six months and highlights areas of particular interest in its mid-year outlook. The report looks at various drivers of the shipping markets, including the on-going impact of evolving emissions regulations.

Contributions come from a range of senior research and broking experts and cover dry bulk, tanker, chemicals, and gas freight markets; shipping investments, CO2 emissions, green financing, freight derivatives, metals and energy derivatives. Together, they give a taste of what to look out for in the second half of 2021.

SSY Chairman Mark Richardson said:

"The aim of this report is to offer a concise update on some of our key markets, looking at how the year has developed and what we might expect for the second half of 2021. The first six months of 2021 have been very much focussed on the three Cs: China, Covid and Carbon. The first is still the dominant force in shipping, the second continues to have an impact across the



globe, and the third is fast becoming one of the key priorities in sustainable shipping. SSY will continue to watch the market closely and ensure we can provide the most up to date insights to our clients, underpinning our views with the latest research and data."

Highlights include:

DRY BULK

"Despite crude steel production growth in January-June of almost 12% in China alongside a comparably robust 14% in the rest of the world, many benchmark steel prices have still managed to soar to record heights." [P8]

TANKERS

"China is a major driver of crude tanker demand, but its imports declined through 2Q21 as it reduced spot crude purchasing and utilized domestic stocks that were rapidly built in 2020 when oil prices were low."
[P12]

CHEMICALS

"With copper prices reaching 10-year highs, sulphuric acid became a very desirable commodity, being used in the production of copper. Asia is also one of the major acid exporting regions.

During this period, demand soared, and freight rates almost doubled." [P18]

LNG

"The first half of 2021 has been the strongest first half of any LNG shipping year since 2014, with an average price for TFDE vessels of \$68,000 / day. Most owners would consider this to be at or above breakeven levels, which, for the traditionally poor half of the year, is very encouraging indeed." [P34]

DRY FFAS

"The FFA market has responded to price volatility with increasing volume as existing traders react to price shifts and new participants come to the market to find a solution to

increased exposure to risk.
This was driven by demand growth in tonnage from Handysize to Panamax as imports into China boomed after their economy accelerated away from lockdown in Q1 and Q2."
[P24]

GREEN FINANCING

"We note that capital is increasingly reluctant to finance unproven technologies, even if classified as green. Retrofit financing of open loop scrubbers was deemed green financing just over a year ago, but views have changed drastically since then." [P41]

DECARBONISATION

"SSY EEXI/EEDI estimates suggest that less than 25% of Bulkers and Tankers will attain compliance leaving most of the fleet facing either EPLs or another form of CO2 abatement. All these vessels will need to be assessed by class societies, creating a substantial logistical challenge."



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- Refresher Training for Proficiency in PST
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INDIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING (IRCLASS) HELPS STRENGTHEN INLAND VESSEL LEGISLATION

CONTRIBUTES TO DEVELOPING BILL DRAFT AND INLAND VESSEL (IV) RULES

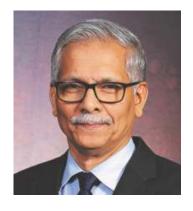
International ship classification society, Indian Register of Shipping (IRClass) has played an integral role in the drafting of the Inland Vessels Bill which was recently passed by the Parliament. The Inland Vessels Act 2021 repeals the earlier Inland Vessels Act 1917 which needed major revisions to remove several archaic and redundant provisions and be in sync with the current times.

The legislation is designed to promote economical and safe transportation and trade through India's inland waters, by introducing a national framework and uniform applicability of rules and regulations.

IRClass assisted in preparation of the draft
IV Bill and participated along with IWAI and
Ministry of Shipping in several broad-based

consultations with all stakeholders.
Stakeholders included several Ministries,
Government organisations, State
governments, Maritime boards as well as
industry participants. Based on suggestions
and recommendations from stake holders,
the bill was amended accordingly or
agreed to promulgate in the rules.

Under the new legislation, service providers and end users will no longer have to observe different compliance levels from one State to another. The new legislation stipulates higher standards to ensure safety of navigation, protection of life and cargo, prevention of environmental pollution, healthier trade practices, transparency and accountability of administrative mechanisms as well as the training and development of an efficient and skilled workforce.



Sr. Vice President and Divisional Head – Mr. N Girish said: "IRClass was pleased to offer strategic advice on this crucial bill as we look to maintain the highest standards possible and make trade more seamless, safer and environmentally friendly by using inland waterways."

Mr. K K Dhawan, Vice President and Area Manager added

'IRClass is committed to working with Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways as well as IWAI to provide technical assistance. While drafting the bill, similar international regulations from US, EU, UK, Vietnam including Rhine regulations were analysed. Based on this IV Bill, IRClass is now associated with IWAI in drafting the IV Rules.'









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info@tototheo.com | www.tototheo.com



ON INDIA'S 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY, JNPT PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND FRONTLINE COVID WARRIORS

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), one of India's premier container handling Ports, showcased its patriotic colours by observing India's 75th Independence Day, keeping all preventive measures in mind amended by the government in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. Chief Guest Shri Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, Dy. Chairman, JNPT hoisted the

JNPT observed the day following all preventive measures such as maintaining social distancing, wearing of masks, proper sanitisation and avoiding large congregation. The frontline warriors. who helped the port remain operational and helped the port keep the logistics supply chain active, were at the centre of attention this year during the

national flag followed by the singing of the National Anthem in the presence of HoDs and employees at the Administration Building. Independence Day celebrations.

At the Independence Day ceremony Shri Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, Dy. Chairman, JNPT, said, "Today we celebrate the

essence of freedom and democracy of this prodigious nation. JNPT is proud of its

contribution to the nation and of upholding democratic values. We pride ourselves on playing a major role in shaping India's blue economy. On this day, I salute everyone who has contributed to building a vibrant India. I also thank the esteemed stakeholders. EXIM community and valued employees who have worked hard even during the lockdown period to keep the port operational and

significantly contributing to the maritime growth of the Nation."

JNPT also planned and executed various activities under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav',

an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 vears of independence of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. The auspicious occasion was concluded with the Deputy Chairman extending warm Independence

Day greetings to all the employees and stakeholders of JNPT.



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MASSA - IMU Collaboration







Soft Skills for induction into Merchant Marine

A collaborative initiative of







MASSA Maritime Academy, Chennai

Majority of MASSA companies identified that 'fresh' cadets joining a vessel for the first time are low on emotional management skills and generally their resilience level is low while inducting themselves into career at sea. Many member companies have established their own induction program on non-technical skills encompassing handling change and related stress, and

emotional management for a smooth inductance.

Keeping this in mind, and to promote employment of Indian trainees and their ultimate wellbeing, MASSA has collaborated with IMU to offer this 2 days highly intensive program "Soft Skills for induction into merchant marine" to about 150 final year cadets without any



Dr. Malini V Shankar, I.A.S. (Retd.) Hon'ble Vice Chancellor – IMU

costs to IMU or the Cadets. All the costs are borne by MASSA.

IMU has welcomed this initiative of MASSA and has readily agreed to this collaboration.

MASSA Maritime Academy, Chennai has thus, recently completed the Soft Skills training program for the 67 cadets of Final Year B.Sc. Nautical Science batch of IMU Chennai campus and 79 cadets of Final Year B. Tech. Marine Engineering batch of IMU Mumbai Port campus.

This comprehensive two days course was designed to master soft skills that critically impact and transform behavioural competence and attitudinal approach for a smooth inductance to highly operational merchant marine environment; particularly now when their Residential and regimented on-campus training is much affected and replaced with on-line education.

The aim was to equip new entrants to the maritime industry with skills through



Capt M P Bhasin



Mr Manish Pradhan



Mr Deepu Kishinchandani

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interactive and participative sessions to appreciate the underlying dynamics influencing interpersonal interactions and emotions at work, and be then able to apply themselves effectively for individual and team performance for a safe and efficient ship operation.

The Resource Persons were qualified and experienced psychologists who met the Course Objectives of: 1. Preparing cadets for shore to ship transition 2. Bring about self-awareness, understanding personality and emotional management 3. Handling stress and conflicts and dealing with

change 4. Enhancing communication skills 5. Ability to work in a team 6. Enhancing decision making skills 7. Understanding generational issues 8. To bring about Intercultural competence.

The feedback received from the cadets is highly encouraging, as well as, lauded by the IMU.

MASSA has planned to repeat this program for the next set of 150 cadets in the next financial year 2022-23 under the MASSA – IMU Collaboration.



STRUGGLING SEAFARERS

Calls to Mental
Health Support
Services (MHSS)
from seafarers
who are really
struggling to cope
has soared by 60%
in recent months,
according to a
recent report.

The increase in seafarers ringing MHSS' 24/7 phone line from April to June 2021 was attributed to the coronavirus pandemic's impact on crew

members – with the situation expected to worsen in the coming months.

"During this quarter, the number of high-risk cases rose by 60% compared to the last quarter [January



to March 2021]," the MHSS Quarterly Activities Report stated. "This confirms that the impact of the pandemic on mental health is increasing. We are not at the peak of the mental issues arising as a result."

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Most calls to MHSS - which provides 247 professional mental health support across the maritime sector came from Easter Europeans, particularly those working as Masters (46.3%), followed by Asian seafarers (31.3%) in officer or ratings roles, and then Europeans (22.4%).

The report revealed that Eastern Europeans

using the helpline were low-to-moderate cases, while Asians and Europeans tended to be moderate-to-severe. Issues raised during the calls included anxiety, bullying or crew conflict arising from limited experience

with different cultures or nationalities.

Other findings show that young cadets who called MHSS, usually after taking the company's coping strategy training, tended to report bullying on board.

Limited crew change was causing anger and anxiety for many seafarers, while more shipping industry office staff were contacting MHSS because of burnout or bullying by management.

Elsewhere, seafarers
testing positive for Covid19 while onboard had
caused stress and anxiety
for their colleagues,
particularly when the
person with the virus was
denied permission to go
ashore or to hospital.

More positively, crew members struggling with

their mental health were increasingly willing to contact MHSS after initial contact between the two parties had been made, usually via WhatsApp.

"The MHSS service is being used regularly by groups traditionally considered reluctant to engage with mental health, which is a significant victory," said Charles Watkins, Clinical Psychologist and Managing Director at MHSS.

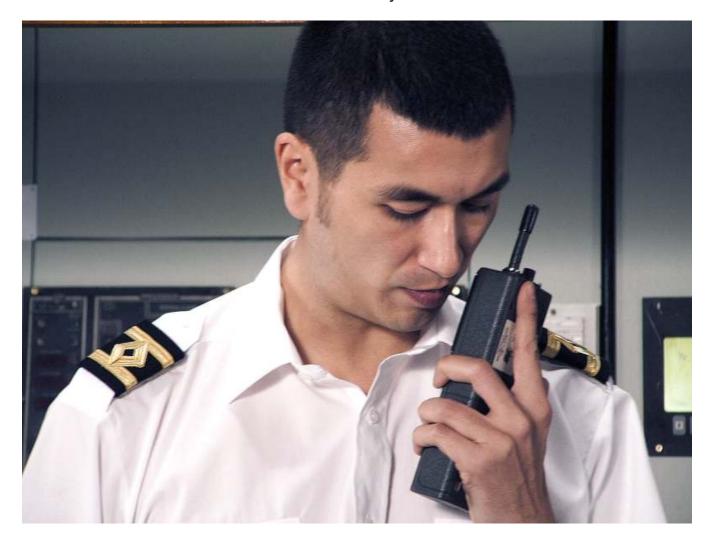
In response to its findings,
MHSS made three
recommendations. Firstly,
all onboard and onshore
staff should be trained to
identify someone at risk
and how to respond
appropriately (including
where to find additional
support) to such situations.

Secondly, captains and officers should be taught

positive communication skills, as the training can "enhance crew cohesion and the wellbeing of all crew members".

"An environment with positive communication is vital for vessel safety as crew members are able to ask before making mistakes, retain focus on their tasks and respectfully challenge unsafe behaviour," Mr Watkins said.

Thirdly, officers and onshore staff should create a culture of care with zero-tolerance for bullying and harassment. "We have created a responsive training programme – 'Compassionate Leadership and Skilful Communication' – which we recommend be implemented," Mr Watkins added.



SUPPORT TO HELP SEAFARERS COPE WITH PIRACY ATTACKS

Piracy attacks on vessels in the commercial shipping sector are an on-going problem with particular hotspots in areas such as the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Guinea and the South China Sea.

In a recent declaration, BIMCO and 99

other maritime organisations including flag states agreed to work towards the suppression of piracy attacks in the Gulf of Guinea. The declaration has highlighted the need for interested parties to work together with regional states to create active anti-piracy operations. It is believed

that this will lead to an 80% reduction in piracy attacks in the area by 2023.

In an effort to support seafarers to meet their responsibilities with regards to their fellow crew mates, vessels and cargo, Ocean Technologies Group has created a series of learning modules to help prevent seafarers falling victim to these types of attacks. The company supports industry initiatives which equip seafarers with the necessary skills to manage merchant ships transiting through high-risk areas.

The modules detail how a vessel can be 'hardened' and how crew should be prepared for passage through a high-risk area by identifying some strategic principles of vessel defence to prevent unauthorised boarding.

Many shipping companies employ armed security guards to be onboard vessels as an extra line of defence. However, there are legal and safety risks associated with their use and so it is vital that a reputable Private Maritime Security Company (PMSC) is chosen with competent and professionally trained guards.

Ocean Technologies Group's "Working with Maritime Security Guards" gives seafarers guidance on how to engage and

work successfully with armed guards from selecting the PMSC through to the guards' disembarkation at the end of their deployment.

"Knowing how to deal with piracy attacks is vital for our seafarers especially if they are in waters where such instances are commonplace." said *Manish Singh*, CEO of Ocean Technologies Group,

"Companies are under so much additional strain at the moment with the pressures of crew change, but they must not



fail to ensure that Masters and their crews are fully conversant with key anti-piracy protocols to give them every chance of avoiding and even repelling unwanted attention."

The psychological fall-out from a piracy attack can lead to seafarers suffering from Post-Traumatic Disorder (PTSD).

Marlins, part of the Ocean Technologies Group, has created an elearning course to help seafarers recognise the specific signs and symptoms of PTSD, explain how it can be treated and offer guidance on the

support options available to seafarers.

"As well as piracy events, seafarers can be exposed to many types of distressing situations such as onboard fires, medical emergencies, collisions or even witnessing the death of a colleague,

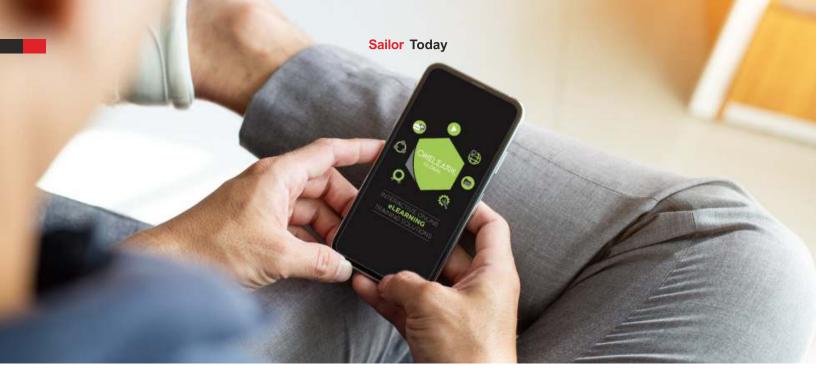
which is why it is so important to recognise the early symptoms of PTSD and understand how this differs from stress, depression or anxiety so the right help and support can be offered," said **Catherine**

Logie, Business Development Director for Marlins.

"Seafarers have been through so much during the past 17 months, with the additional burdens placed on them due to the pandemic and the uncertainty around crew changes, so it is inevitable that there will be an increase in mental health issues amongst crew. Ship owners

and managers can help address this by raising awareness of a range of mental health issues and having systems in place to support those who are struggling," she added.





ONELEARN GLOBAL CAN HELP PLUG SEAFARER SHORTAGE

Ship managers and operators facing a potential seafarer shortage because of Covid-19 can increase their talent pipeline by outsourcing digital maritime training to a specialist.

Nigel Cleave, Senior Advisor at
OneLearn Global, the digital eLearning
maritime training provider, said his
company was available to help shipping
companies train existing and develop
new mariners amid the crew change
crisis.

"The shipping industry has been rocked by several challenges in recent years, not least the global pandemic," he said following the release of the 'Alllianz Safety and
Shipping
Review 2021',
which warns
of long-term
consequence
s for the
maritime
sector.



"Sourcing skilled seafarers is difficult right now and it could get harder as new generations entering the profession are struggling to get on-the-job experience because they can't board ships. That is all down to Covid-19.

"However, companies dealing with

myriad issues such as coronavirus, crew change, decarbonisation and digitalisation can still provide their crew members with top-class training and development by appointing a specialist such as OneLearn Global."

Mr Cleave added that
OneLearn Global offers a
range of courses – both for
the experienced and
relatively new seafarer –
that cover everything from
preparing a vessel and
crew for Covid-19 to fire
safety, first aid, security
and crowd management,
to name just a few.

"The attraction of digital eLearning courses like ours is they can be performed from anywhere, at any time, in the world, both online as well as offline," he said. "Training programmes that are powered by our enormously effective

state-of-the-art learning management system give mariners the complete freedom to choose how and when they spend time developing their knowledge or attributes.

"Furthermore, the course length of 15–20 minutes – designed with millennials and Gen Z in mind – is proving incredibly popular and a real game-changer with both learners and our customers."

Investing in maritime training is vital to the industry's future prosperity, according to Allianz's 2021 shipping review. Captain Andrew Kinsey, Senior Marine Risk Consultant at Allianz Global Corporate & Speciality, said that with hundreds of thousands of crew members stuck on vessels or working extended contracts, he had "serious concerns" for the next generation of seafarers.

"The situation with Covid-19 means that we are not training and developing them [seafarers], while the sector may struggle to attract new blood due to current working conditions."

The Allianz report added that with economies and international trade expected to rebound post-Covid, demand for mentally and physically exhausted crew members will rise.

"With so many crew members stuck on board vessels there are serious concerns for the next generation of seafarers," the report said. "Covid-19 is impacting training and development... any shortage could impact the surge in demand for shipping as the economy and international trade rebounds."

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SHIPSY REBRANDS; LAUNCHES NEW LOGO AND WEBSITE TO MARK SIGNIFICANT GROWTH AND RAPID TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Registers comprehensive growth since the founding of the company;
 records 75% surge in its revenue and clients in the past six months
- Aims to carve a global presence by expanding international outreach

Shipsy, a leading smart logistics management platform, announced its rebranding. The move aligns with the company's vision to be the global SaaS leader for logistics and global trade management.

The transformation will see Shipsy drifting from a product-led approach to devising cutting-edge solutions for numerous use cases across industries. The development is reflected through their new website and logo, emphasizing the brand's future-ready outlook. It also aims to better communicate value propositions in terms of industry-specific use cases and shipping modules.



Shipsy is a preferred technology partner to big-ticket businesses worldwide. It has also set up operations in the Middle East by unveiling a regional headquarter in Dubai.

The company registered a 75% surge in its revenue and clients in the past six months.

Shipsy has made a series of onboardings across organizational hierarchy to accelerate its expansion roadmap and boost its thought leadership mindshare.

On the technology front, their hub operations are now entirely mobile, while the sophisticated auto allocation engine now delivers a success rate of 94%. Other modifications incorporated also drive superior outcomes to the customer's benefit.

Commenting on the rebranding, **Soham**

Chokshi, Co-founder, and CEO, Shipsy, said, "Our customer-first approach has allowed us to win hearts and create milestones so far. We want to embark on a new journey by capitalizing on opportunities that have materialized in the post-pandemic brave new world. Since change is the only constant, we are confident that reshaping our value proposition will usher several breakthroughs and successfully carve a formidable presence for us in the global trade and logistics management space in the time to come."

COMING UP

Sailor Today's Wellness and motivational figure, Umesh Pherwani who has hosted many Sailor Today Awards Shows and held the attention of his audience displaying his speaking skills, will soon motivate young minds of our cadets at a seminar which is being held by Sailors' Society.

The participants will include Pre Sea Maritime Institutions focusing primarily on young Cadets who are looking to have a successful career at sea.

Umesh will focus on Wellness at Sea, highlighting 'Positive Wellbeing for a Rewarding Seafaring Career' and 'Coping Strategies for Seafarers Onboard'.

Umesh, who is an Author, Life Coach and a

Neuro
Linguistic
Programming
Trainer, is a
popular face
at Sailor
Today events
and
functions. His
talk will surely



help the next generation of shipping professionals create pathways to realize their true potential.

Dr. Malini Shankar will give the keynote address on the occasion and many other high profile shipping entities will also attend.

FIRST, COMPLETE STEEL SHIPMENT

Ruscon, the parent company of the Dutch Smart Container, introduces an innovative support-material for transporting steel plates. A durable replacement for the wooden separators that are being used for centuries.



The parts, a polymer composite material cast in a cylinder shape, have been developed as plate separation during storage and transport.

The polymer composite materials are now used on ships from St. Petersburg to the harbour of Ghent (BE). These reusable separating parts on the cargo from steel



The parts, a polymer composite material cast in a cylinder shape, have been developed as plate separation during storage and transport.

The polymer composite materials are now used on ships from St. Petersburg to the harbour of Ghent (BE). These reusable separating parts on the cargo from steel plates will be collected at the harbour to be transported back to sender. There is a deposit on the parts, a stick behind the door to make sure they are recycled.

For this a new transport scheme is being established by Ruscon, to allow the use of these reusable separation agents. Also, Ruscon takes care of the full customs clearance for the loading and unloading ports and exports the re-import for the seperators to Russia. In this way, the customer receives a complete use cycle of this innovative product,

There the parts are light and easy to handle, the ease of use means also, improvement to the speed of handling

when loading and unloading the steel plates.

Since the spring of this year, a test period has started on the St. Petersburg - Ghent

(Belgium) - St. Petersburg route. During this period, both traditional materials and the polymeric separators were used for cargo securing. A total of five test shipments were carried out and finally, on June 18, a ship



was on its way from St. Petersburg with a cargo completely separated by the polymer components.

A number of large steel producers have shown interest in using the new separating materials. Therefore, in addition to the port of St. Petersburg, a shipment will soon be prepared using these innovative separation technologies from Novorossiysk

Finally for the figures, approximately 20 m3 of wood is normally used when loading a

batch of 5,000 tons of metal. For this load of 5 thousand tons of metal plates, about 50 thousand plastic bottles are needed for the production of the composite components. The separation parts can be reused several times and are themselves recyclable.

And the most important added value is that this polymer composite material saves 13 thousand cubic meters of timber and have a much longer life than that of wood.



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SHIPPING SET TO DEBATE 'CODE RED' CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES AHEAD OF COP26

As a landmark
United Nations
climate study
declares "code red
for humanity",
maritime leaders
are set to discuss
how the shipping
industry can play its
part in meeting
global targets, just
two months ahead
of the crucial
COP26 talks in
Glasgow.



economically viable future.

Examining the core question: "Is shipping ready for the outcomes of COP26?" industry leaders will consider key factors which will help or hinder shipping as it navigates through the political, technological and economic challenges of creating a sustainable, carbon free and

Tim Wilkins, Environment
Director and Deputy
Managing Director of
INTERTANKO, will moderate
the debate, which takes
place during the headline
conference of London
International Shipping Week
(LISW21) being held at the
London headquarters of
the UN's International

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Maritime
Organisation on
Wednesday
September 15.

Anticipating a meaningful debate, he said: "COP26 represents an opportunity for shipping to demonstrate how it contributes to the fight against global climate change, identifying

sustainable solutions to meet humanity's climate goals. It is vital that our industry makes a meaningful contribution to this dialogue and focuses carefully on what messages to send to world leaders in Glasgow and this debate will be an important precursor to those high-level discussions."





GEMAK WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1969 AS A SMALL YARD IN THE BOSPHORUS, ISTANBUL. GEMAK GROUP NOW STANDS OUT IN TURKEY AND AROUND THE WORLD FOR ITS WIDE RANGE OF SKILLS AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE.

Gemak has the vision to be the best in class and preferred partner on worldwide basis for demanding projects on steel fabrication industry, marine and offshore vessel building, marine conversion projects, marine vessels repair and maintenance.

Gemak Group consists of Gemak Tuzla Shipyard (established in 1969), Gemak TGE Shipyard (acquired in 2000), Gemak Neta Factory (established in 2008) and Gemak Altınova Shipyard (established in 2013) totally on 336.000 m2

The milestones in Gemak's history are linked inseparably to projects which is not only financially a factor of innovation, change and foresight, the levers that contribute to expanding frontiers and creating progress for the company.

50 years of experience in engineering solutions, Gemak is proud of being in service to over 2.800 ship owners and managers. The group continues to provide services for dry-docking, ship repair & conversion, offshore – oil & gas and new ship building as the one of the most competitive shipyard in the Mediterranean.

The Group has been profiled as a leading fabricator of high quality large steel constructions in the wider region with its advanced infrastructure by building steel shafts for Izmit Bay Bridge and by fabrication of steel decks for 3rd Bosphorus Bridge.

The Group strives to bring benefit to its clients by combining strengths generated by involvement in these main activites.

Navigating through the Pandemic crisis Crew welfare takes center stage at MTM



Managing Director
MTM SHIP MANAGEMENT PTE LTD

The coronavirus pandemic has created many challenges for the crew on board. They face the risks of infection in ports due to the interaction with pilots, agents, stevedores, inspectors, surveyors and others attending the ships in ports. Besides, there is an uncertainty of coming back home on time to reunite with my family as planned. Restricted or no shore leave and difficulties in seeing doctors in ports added to their mental stress.

In MTM ship Management, the crisis was well managed right from the beginning. As soon as WHO declared this as a Pandemic, MTM started regular crew relief meetings

coordinated by the group crew manager in Singapore with country heads of all manning offices. The Managing director was himself chairing these meetings. MTM was successful in carrying out 90 % of the crew changes on time due to well planned relief operations in consultation with vessel operators and owners. Excellent support from operators and owners allowed diversion of ships to mother countries of seafarers & sometimes to ports where crew changes were allowed without major restrictions. Besides using chartered flights organized by a group of managers, MTM also chartered flights on its own when required. The biggest challenge was faced on ships operating within South American ports and Fiji Islands.

Relief on time was one of the major tasks in MTM to show solidarity towards the crew welfare and recognition of the crew's contribution to keep the world's supply chain moving smoothly.

Teams in the manning offices department have been re-oriented to ensure better administration of relief planning. Contracts of ratings have been reduced to 8 months. The motive of these initiatives is to bring back seafarers to unite with families on time.



"WE CARE FOR OUR SHIPS. WE CARE FOR OUR PEOPLE".

Besides a timely relief plan, there were several other initiatives taken by MTM Ship management in providing support to its crew in terms of mental health and wellbeing.

MTM has been very proactive in protecting the lives of our seafarers and safeguarding them from the infection. MTM had supplied protective gear on ships last year which is being used in ports. This was very effective and MTM takes pride in declaring that they did not have any incidents on board our ships resulting from infections from shore authorities. In the month of July 21, the company decided to equip all ships with oxygen concentrators, oxygen meters and full set of covid medicines for full complement on board. The superintendents and Supply chain Manager are working towards this to ensure stocking of this is completed on board as soon as possible.

Several other measures have been taken to provide enhanced support to the ships in terms of mental health and well-being. This includes partnerships with organizations like ISWAN and ISOS. ISWAN provides support to seafarers when

required and ISOS provides 24 x 7 medical assistance and advice on ships.

With respect to keeping the crew connected with families and the world around them, all ships have free and unlimited WIFI facility. The IT teams are also working with V Sat service providers to beam news channels and entertainment programs for seafarers on board MTM ships.

MTM seafarers are encouraged to get vaccinated before joining. Many ships have completed vaccination programs in ports of call in the US and Europe. Efforts are on for expanding this effort in other geographical areas also.

MTM ship management's biggest differentiator in this pandemic has been its care for the seafarers which is visible not just in newspapers and magazines but in actual deeds and facts. This is what makes MTM, MTM – A company that keeps the interest & well-being of seafarers in the centre of all activities and the commitment in doing so comes right from the Board and the senior management to all employees in shore offices.



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