

SAMUDRA

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FORTIFYING VALUABLE TIES



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REINFORCING BILATERAL TIES WITH FKSU



Delegates of the Federation of Korean Seafarers Union (FKSU) called on the SOS on 4 December 2012 as part of their annual visit to strengthen the rich bilateral relations between the Korean and Singaporean seafarers' unions.

These delegates comprised of President of FKSU Mr Lee Joong Hwa, President of Busan Fishers' Union Mr Park Hee Sung, President of Han-Jin Seafarers' Union Mr Ha Sung Min, President of Korea Special Seafarers' Union Mr Park Seong Yong, President of Korea Purse-Seine Seamen's Union Mr Chung Tae Kil, President of STX PAN OCEAN Seafarers' Union Mr Lee Im Su, and Translator for FKSU Mr Kim Sang Gi.

During the meeting, SOS members presented the functions of the different divisions and discussed ways in which the two unions can learn from each other's experience, strengthen union-to-seafarers linkage, as well as broaden their cooperation on the regional front.

As part of SOS' ongoing efforts to increase inter-union interaction and experience sharing, SOS Assistant Secretary Mr David Shoo presented the running and management of schemes – such as the Seacare Medical Scheme (SMS), Seacare Sailor's Home Scheme (SSS) and Seacare Maritime Training Scheme (SMTS) – and how they benefit SOS 22,000-strong local and foreign members.

The Korean delegates were impressed and affirmed the success of these schemes. They also sought to learn more about SOS' role in providing an all-inclusive welfare system for members. Throughout the meeting, the union leaders engaged in rounds of comprehensive and fruitful exchange of views and discussed concrete ways to deepen and further align their regional cooperation.

At the end of the discussion, SOS General Secretary Mr Kam Soon Huat and FKSU President Mr Lee Joong Hwa presented a memento to each other as a gesture of their collaborative relationship and friendship. The delegates were then given a tour around the Seacare Hotel that afternoon.



FRATERNAL VISIT TO JSU IN TOKYO

To reinforce the strong ties SOS has with the Japan Seafarers Union (JSU), General Secretary Mr Kam Soon Huat and Executive Secretary Mr Daniel Tan paid the Japanese union a special visit from 12 to 14 November 2012. In Tokyo, parties from both sides shared information on the happenings in each others' countries, and discussed the potential of future opportunities for more bilateral co-operation.





MARITIME UNIONISTS DISCUSS DANGERS OF FATIGUE

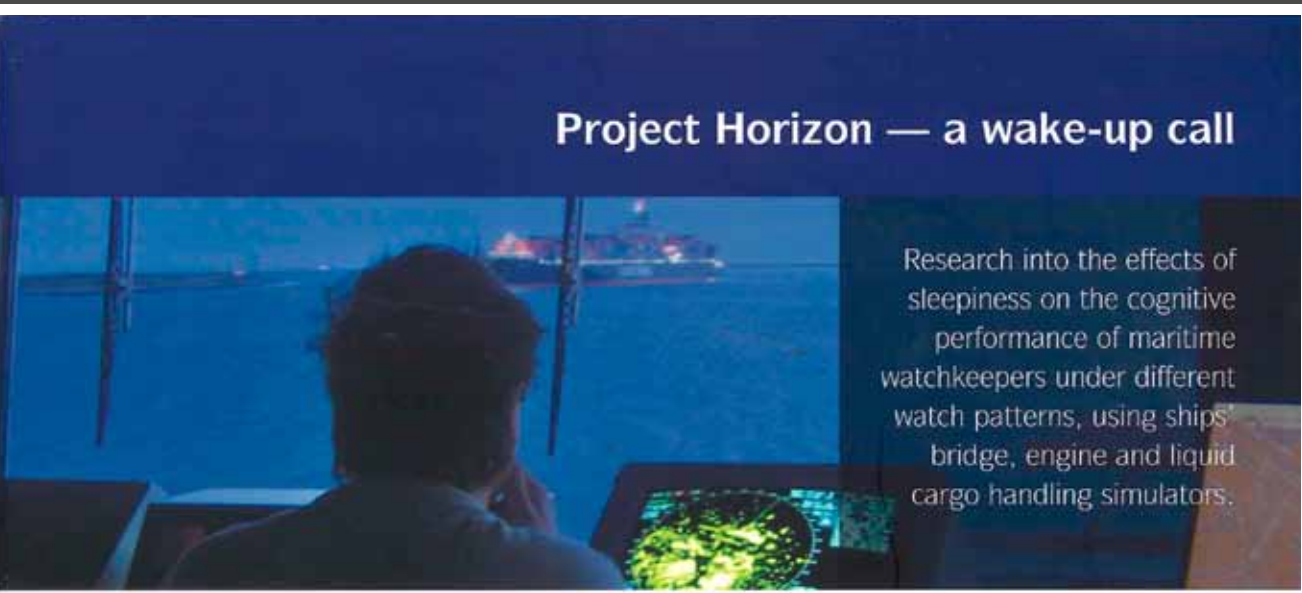
SOS General Secretary Mr Kam Soon Huat was in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 29 October 2012 to attend the International Ratings Forum.

During the two-day forum, maritime trade unionists convened to discuss policies and measures to further enhance the working conditions and safety of seafarers.

Among the topics on the agenda was fatigue suffered by seafarers. Fatigue is an increasing area of concern among the international maritime community as weariness or exhaustion at work often results in the compromise of human safety,

environmental damage and commercial loss. It was noted that fatigue, which affects watch-keeping performance, is also the major cause of most collisions and groundings.

The participants of the forum were presented with findings of Project Horizon, a research initiative that uses ship simulators to examine the cognitive performance of seafarers. The project demonstrated conclusive links between performance degradation and certain patterns of works by producing accurate data which surpasses previous studies on fatigue.



Project Horizon — a wake-up call

Research into the effects of sleepiness on the cognitive performance of maritime watchkeepers under different watch patterns, using ships' bridge, engine and liquid cargo handling simulators.



www.project-horizon.eu

Research report 2012

with the cooperation of



Part EU-funded Project No. FP7 234000



SEAFARERS GET MARITIME UPDATE IN CYPRUS

The ITF Seafarers Section Committee Meeting held in Limassol, Cyprus, had unionists participating in a fruitful and thought-provoking discussion on regional developments, piracy, the Maritime Labour Convention and more.

SOS Executive Secretary Mr Daniel Tan joined in the discussion which included updates on IMO, women seafarers, young workers and the current global economic situation.

While in Cyprus from 26 to 28 November 2012, Mr Tan also represented SOS in a Maersk Network Meeting which focused on Maersk being a significant player with the global maritime industry.



STANDING UNITED TO IMPROVE SEAFARERS' WELFARE IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

At the heart of the gathering of transport delegates from the South East Asia (SEA) region, some 40 delegates reviewed a programme aimed at improving seafarers' welfare.

Held in Bali, Indonesia, the Regional Welfare Committee and Fisher's Meeting saw delegates from Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Singapore, and Vietnam evaluate the last four years of the programme with a view to planning the next stage of action. SOS President Mr Mohamed Idris Bin Mohamed Ibrahim attended the two-day meeting, from 2 to 3 October 2012, which was observed by delegates from New Zealand, Norway, and the United Kingdom.

The discussions underscored the benefits of increased regional and national cooperation enabled by the programme, such as sharing good practice and learning, and working together to address challenges faced by seafarers. The review

of the programme showed that there were more opportunities for increased advocacy on the practical implementation of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) instruments on seafarers' welfare, and that progress had been made in setting up National Seafarers' Welfare Boards and Port Welfare Committees. One area of improvement was identified, which was to build relationships with key stakeholders.

The changing landscape of the maritime industry prompted an enthusiastic debate on how services needed by seafarers could be developed to adapt to the times. This relates to services and information on health and fitness, and the need to build on the progress made to improve the physical, social, psychological and spiritual well-being of seafarers.





SOS Vice President Mr Mohamad Abu Bakar and Corporate Communications Assistant Manager Mr George Foo (seated first and second from the left) among the 20 participants of the MLC workshop at the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Turin, Italy.

Union representatives and officials from different corners of the world convened in Turin, Italy for a Workshop for the ITF Affiliates on the ILO Maritime Labour Convention (MLC 2006) on 8 October 2012.

Hailing from Europe, Asia Pacific and South America, these representatives were the first group of participants to be trained under the programme, launched by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

The workshop aimed to raise awareness and familiarise participants with key concepts of the ILO MLC 2006, which will increase their knowledge on the convention and enable them with an accurate view to providing effective support to all parties interested in bettering the lives of seafarers.

SOS Vice President Mr Mohamad Abu Bakar and Corporate Communications Assistant Manager Mr George Foo were among the 20 participants at the three-day workshop. Both felt that the workshop had greatly strengthened their understanding and application of MLC's regulations.

These key concepts were dealt with by lecturers and during individual group presentations, which provided participants a better grasp of the concepts through interactive learning.

"The workshop was timely and beneficial for us. Many regulations and their implementations were discussed in great depth. We also exchanged pointers and share our experience with regional and international seafarer unions. It was

STRONGER UNDERSTANDING OF MLC CONCEPTS IN TURIN

a great learning experience. I'm positive what we have learnt will be put to good use," said Mr Abu Bakar.

Mr Foo agreed, adding that the workshop led to major improvements in his job performance and attendance of the course had greatly upgraded his professional competence.

The curriculum covered crucial concepts of the MLC such as the Seafarers' protections and rights issues, which included Minimum Requirements, Conditions of Employments, Accommodations and Health Protections.

The specially invited lecturers for the workshop included Mr Dierk Lindemann, Special Advisor on the Maritime Labour Convention (ILO/HQ); Capt Luigi Giardino, Chief of Flag State Branch (Italian Coast Guard Headquarters); and Mr Fabrizio Barcellona, Assistant Section Secretary, Seafarers, Fisheries and Inland Navigation (ITF).

Specially invited guest lecturer Mr Dierk Lindemann expounding the key concepts of the MLC to the participants





SNIMI CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY WITH A GASTRONOMIC EXPERIENCE



Gathered in Nantong, China, SOS celebrated the first anniversary of the Singapore-Nantong International Maritime Institute (SNIMI) along with specially invited guests from Merchant Navy Officers' Guild, ITF HK Office, SMEF, Seacare Thrift and local and regional shipping companies.

Highlights of the celebration ceremony included the official opening of the SNIMI Training Centre Replica Gallery and speeches by SNIMI Chairman Mr Yang Ze Yu; SOS General Secretary Mr Kam Soon Huat; General Secretary of Merchant Navy Officers' Guild Capt Chung Tung Tong and Deputy Director of Jiangsu MSA Mr Wang Xiu Feng.

Reflecting on the experiences and achievements of SNIMI over the past year, the hosts and guests exchanged views on the current shipping market and how to improve the development of seafarers' training and enforcement of MLC 2006 while feasting on the sumptuous delicacies which were specially prepared by SNIMI-trained cooks.

The 18 trainees cooked up a storm with an impressive menu which featured cereal prawns, butter lamb with gravy and potato, roast beef topped with black pepper sauce, steamed fish, chicken curry with nasi briyani, roast pork belly, BBQ roast pork, laksa, spaghetti with meatball, stromboli, oxtail soup and more.

Comprising of Chief Cooks and 2nd Cooks from Ocean Tankers (Pte) Ltd, AP Moller Singapore Pte Ltd and PACC Ship Managers Pte Ltd, these trainees went all out to flaunt their skills after attending a 11-day MLC 2006 compliant Certified Cook's Training course in November 2012. The course aimed, through classroom learning and hands-on training, to equip students with the knowledge and attitude in marine culinary and managing onboard victuals. Upon successful completion of the training programme, these trainees were expected to demonstrate their acquired knowledge and skills proficiency learnt. And impress they did!



PROACTIVE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Along with 200 other unionists from NTUC-affiliated unions, SOS Executive Secretary Mr Daniel Tan, Assistant Treasurer Mr David Sim, and Assistant Secretary Mr See Boon Kwang attended the NTUC Industrial Relations Sector Seminar in Taipei, Taiwan.

Held from 28 to 31 October 2012, the unionists reviewed the Employment Act and deliberated on how to carry out more pro-active industrial relations activities with the sole intention of serving our union members better in the future.

GROWING UNIONISATION

Learning to grow the union strength together was the main draw that brought 135 union leaders to the NTUC Membership Seminar 2012 held in Malacca from 17 to 19 November 2012.

The unionists left no stone unturned as they explored the various methods on how to grow the union stronger and to represent more workers. One of the highlights of the discussion was uncovering the potential existing sectors that were untapped.

The seminar also focused on engaging the PMEs and life-long membership. Participants shared creative ideas on how to retain the members from leaving the labour movement and overcoming challenges when recruiting new members. The allocation of the NTUC 50 funds to help unions recruit and retain more members were proposed and approved. The fund was set up in 2011 to encourage leadership and membership development.



LEARNING POINTS FOR INCREASING EMPLOYABILITY



Looking into the employment issues in Singapore, the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) Employment and Employability Committee (EEC) sought for fresh perspectives on their learning journey to Hong Kong.

From 16 to 19 October 2012, unionists gained opportunities to visit four organisations namely the Employees Retraining Board (ERB), Hong Kong Hotels Association (HKHA) and The Langham, Hong Kong, the HK Federation of Trade Unions (HKFTU), and the Disney Institute, Hong Kong. The learning journey's objective was to observe how Hong Kong enhances employment and employability of workers, and to identify suitable productivity initiatives to be implemented in Singapore.

Two SOS representatives, Ms Mariana Amad, Manager, and Mr Loh Suan Hin, SOS ExCo member and Chairman of the Training, Skills and Leadership Development Committee, were part of the delegation and concluded that re-skilling workers is crucial in ensuring that their salaries will not reach a stagnant point. Equipping workers with relevant skills and knowledge is beneficial as traditional jobs are being displaced with the ever-changing job market.

Other learning points were the key role that unions play in articulating workers' training needs and the positive returns of investing in building a core of local workers.

NTUC CARE & SHARE COMMITTEE CRAFT 2013 WORKPLAN



To improve on the U Care initiatives, the NTUC Care & Share Committee members (2011-2015) worked on refining aspects of the U Care Fund and addressing concerns of the new workplan.

A total of 58 union leaders from 39 unions along with two SOS representatives, President Mr Mohamed Idris Bin Mohamed Ibrahim and Senior Executive Ms Halimahtul Saa'diah Binte Mohamed Sadon took part in the workplan

seminar from 13 to 15 October 2012 in Batam, Indonesia. There, unionists participated in team-building activities to promote camaraderie among existing and new members of the Care & Share Committee.

Among the issues highlighted were determining the needs of the different groups of beneficiaries of the U Care Fund, exploring U Care core values, and deciding how the budget can be distributed effectively to key programmes

such as the U Stretch and Back to School Vouchers. The Care & Share Committee concluded the workplan seminar with a clearer vision of the objectives for the committee in the year ahead.



Photo:
NTUC Care & Share
Committee

Recognising the power of women Leaders in organisations can help bring more success to an organisation – that was what women activists gained from the NTUC Women Leadership Seminar held on 2 November 2012.

Organised by the NTUC Women's Development Secretariat (WDS) and the Ong Teng Cheong Labour Leadership Institute (OTCi), the seminar saw a meaningful exchange of information from guest speaker, Ms Jane Horan, who spoke about her extensive findings on Asian women leaders; and NTUC President Ms Diana Chia's sharing on her world of leadership.

The seminar, with the theme on 'Tomorrow's Women Leaders – Distinctive, Effective and Adaptive', gave essential networking opportunities and sharing of best practices,



CHATTING WITH WOMEN LEADERS

Tomorrow's Women Leaders: Distinctive, Effective, Adaptive

which will further empower them to seek higher leadership positions within their organisations and unions.

Participants from SOS included Deputy Chief Operating Officers, Ms Shena Foo, Ms Tan Siew Hui, Ms Sia Ai Ngoh, Ms Jacquelyn Lam as well as Assistant Director Ms Sharon Li.

NTUC WOMEN PLAN AND DELIBERATE FOR 2013

The NTUC Women's Committee gathered representatives from various NTUC affiliated unions to work out its plan for 2013. The seminar themed 'Progressing Together; Finding Breakthroughs' was held in Malacca, Malaysia, and saw the participation of Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Ms Shena Foo and Assistant Director, Ms Sharon Li.

The Women's Committee comprised of five sub-committees namely Back2Work, Work Life Initiatives, WeCare Volunteerism, Activities, and Leadership. Participants received updates by the NTUC Women's Development Secretariat (WDS) and Family Development Unit before carrying out robust discussions on new objectives for 2013, and how the sub-committees can put together a collaborative effort to achieve their goals. Significant challenges that were identified were getting women to return to the workforce, encouraging companies to implement

flexi-work arrangements, and increasing the number of women leaders.

Participants had the opportunity to observe an engagement session involving NTUC President Ms Diana Chia, NTUC Vice President Ms Nora Kang, NTUC Assistant Secretary-General Ms Cham Hui Fong, Director of NTUC WDS Ms Sylvia Choo, and Director of NTUC U Family Ms Toh Hwee Tin. The session saw issues such as maternity benefits and workplace matters raised, and members giving feedback, such as getting women to consider entrepreneurship as a form of gainful employment.





YOUNG NTUC PLAN FOR 2013

Young NTUC Committee Members from 26 National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) Youth Chapters made their way to Pulau Sibiu, an island off Johor Bahru in Malaysia for a three day Workplan Seminar. Executive Secretary of Young NTUC, Mr Steve Tan, gave an opening address and an overview of the committee's work in 2012. Senior Executive Ms Clarissa Lim and Executive Mr Colin Chia attended the seminar where they participated actively.

In their respective sectors, industrial, public, and service, participants reviewed their 2012 Workplans and their outcomes, as well as plan for 2013. Each Youth Chapter brainstormed and presented an activity which they planned to

organise for their youth members, and the resources required. The 53 participants engaged in teambuilding activities and had a leisurely time during their chalet stay as they were surrounded with deers and peacocks which roamed freely. The entire seminar fortified the relations between these young members which would come into play in future within the Labour Movement.



YOUNG TRANSPORT WORKERS VOICE OUT WORKPLACE CHALLENGES

A vibrant exchange of ideas came about as some 28 young transport workers gathered in Bangkok, Thailand, to talk about their respective work environments and its challenges. In this first seminar of its kind in the Asia and Pacific region by the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), the three-day meeting which saw the attendance of SOS Assistant Director Ms Sharon Li and Executive Mr Colin Chia, focused on the situations of women and young transport workers. A more fruitful takeaway for participants was the inspiration they had from hearing how other transport workers dealt with their own challenges.

Thoughts and strategies were pooled and conversations spanned from methods to organise women and young workers to developing union responses to reduce insecure and precarious work affecting young workers. As part of the tech-savvy generation, participants suggested more ways and means to reach out to their targeted transport workers with the use of social media to build up unionism. Overall, many participants expressed the efficacy in the meeting and hoped for the return of such a meeting.





REDISCOVERING THE SINGAPORE MARITIME STORY

On 31 October 2012, 28 SOS members went on a visit to the newly-launched Singapore Maritime Gallery. Thanks to the SOS Training & Skills and Leadership Development Division which planned the trip to Marina South Pier, our members could stay abreast of the latest developments in the maritime industry.

The SOS visitors once again experienced the vibrant maritime industry which they are so much a part of. With 10 different zones, ranging from the evolution of Singapore's maritime industry and the importance of the ports and shipping business, to the different types of vessels that sail the seas, the Gallery pays tribute to the people behind Singapore's transformation from a simple fishing village into a great port and major International Maritime Centre.

The trip's star attraction was the Gallery's Bridge Simulator, where participants had a chance to experience steering vessels in Singapore's port waters under different weather conditions. Visitors also had the chance to learn more about port operations, the diversity of the different sectors and the progressiveness of the maritime industry.

"The control room and simulator are interesting features and are similar, if not more advanced, to the ones used on ships. Many of us felt as if we were walking down memory lane and recalled our sailing days", shared SOS member, Mr Abdul Rahim Bin Abdul Rahman. Mr Abdul Rahim, who sailed for 16 years before retiring as a seafarer in 1996, now ferries passengers with his Steersman licence.





MEMBERS LEARN MORE ABOUT FOOD INDUSTRY

We have heard about Sakae Sushi and perhaps even patronised the famous sushi chain. On 6 December 2012, a group of 37 SOS members went one step further to learn about the corporate philosophy, success, employment and training practices of the local sushi chain.

The visit, organised by SOS Training & Skills and Leadership Development Committee, kept the members up-to-date with the technology and employment practices in the food industry. The learning programme is part of SOS' efforts to promote lifelong learning and increase members' employability in today's competitive employment market.

The exclusive tour to Sakae's central kitchen showed members a comprehensive system that optimally processes, stores, and distributes food items. SOS members interacted

with Sakae staff to learn more about the various employment positions and potential job opportunities.

SOS President Mr Mohamed Idris Bin Mohamed Ibrahim thanked Sakae Holdings for providing members with such a valuable opportunity and the high quality learning experience. He also encouraged the SOS members to continue participating in more of such learning activities to come.

"It was a fruitful outing and a rare occasion for us to learn. I learned a lot about the functions of this popular Japanese food chain. This is my first time to the central kitchen, which I observed is very big and clean. The kind of jobs in Sakae is particularly relevant to seafarers who worked as cooks and stewards," said retired seafarer Mr Heng Aik Mui, who has sailed for more than 30 years.





FAMILY DAY FOR SOS FILIPINO MEMBERS

To celebrate and reinforce the importance of the family unit, SOS brought together 250 Filipino members and their families for a memorable fun-filled time in H2O hotel @ Manila Ocean Park. The event was also attended by representatives from shipping companies and manning agencies in Manila, SOS and Seacare staff.

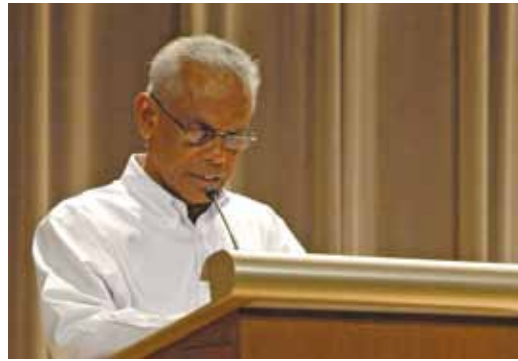
Members and their families participated in a wide array of interesting activities, spending quality time together throughout the well-planned programme that included magic shows and scavenger hunts, contemporary songs by a four-piece band and a sumptuous buffet lunch spread.

The key message of the event was the importance of families as pillars of support to seafarers, as highlighted by SOS Assistant Secretary Mr David Shoo in his welcome address. This was echoed by the Special Guest, Ms Marie Cooper, Head of Operations of Maersk Line Crewing. Ms Cooper was heartened by SOS' efforts in recognising the need to ensure seafarers' welfare, be it out at sea or on land.

The event drew to a close as members and their families adjourned to Manila Ocean Park, the country's first world-class marine theme park, to enjoy the various attractions such as the Oceanarium, Musical Fountain and Fish Spa.







MEMBERS' CHILDREN



Over the years, many of SOS members' children have benefitted from the SOS Study Grant.

"The study grants," said Mr Mohamed Idris Bin Mohamed Ibrahim, SOS President, "are the union's way for encouraging our members' children to strive higher and further in their studies and provide financial relief to our members."

On 6 October 2012, 124 members' children were awarded these grants at the NTUC Centre totalling \$42,600. The awardees ranged from primary school pupils to University students receiving \$150 to \$700 each.

On top of that, there was a category for 'Best Awards', which were presented to 12 students from the various categories, for achieving high academic results.





“Studying is not just about getting good grades. It is also about nurturing you to become a better person. We hope that you can understand why your parents always urge you to study well and work hard, because no one can control your life; your future is your own life. If you do well, at

the end of the day, the future is yours. If you choose otherwise, nobody will be able to help you do better if you choose to misuse the opportunity you have now.”

– Ms Cham Hui Fong,
Assistant Secretary-General, NTUC

AWARDED

They were rewarded with additional cash ranging between \$150 and \$250 each. The study grants are supported by the NTUC U Care Education Co-Funding Scheme.

The event’s Guest-of-Honour was Ms Cham Hui Fong, NTUC Assistant Secretary-General, who in her speech, inspired the children to have a deeper understanding towards the importance of education and the family support they receive.

Nur Dayana Hamzah, 15 years old

“I’ve received the grant since I was in Primary school, and I’ve kept the money in the bank for future use. I’m planning to go to Polytechnic to study Business Studies because in future I hope to start my own business.”



Ishaikal bin Mohamed, 20 years old

“Since Secondary One I have been benefitting from the SOS study grant. I have used it for buying school supplies and transport expenses. Currently, I’m pursuing my third year in Diploma in Mechanical Engineering. Thus, I need to buy materials to complete my final-year project and the money from the grant will come in handy.”

SOS BRIGHTENS UP AT DEEPAVALI CELEBRATION



(From left) SOS Exco member Mr Raj Moham, SOS General Secretary Mr Kam Soon Huat, and SOS President Mr Mohamed Idris lighting up the 1.5 metre-tall brass kuthuvilakku

The festive spirit of Deepavali was all around as 150 members and their spouses turned up at the Seacare Building to celebrate the Festival of Lights. Despite a heavy downpour, members and their spouses arrived in droves and high spirits, eager to enjoy the joyous occasion with friends. SOS President Mr Mohamed Idris Bin Mohamed Ibrahim gave a heart-warming speech by thanking the participants for their strong support in the festive celebration.

Participants enjoyed an assortment of Indian cuisine such as freshly-made naan and tandoori chicken, amidst twinkling lights and Bollywood beats. As the night grew, temperatures rose and hearts raced as belly dancers shimmied to a spellbinding number.

The celebration came to an end with some lucky members who went home with Rowenta Tower Fans and other prizes in the Lucky Draw segment. Definitely comes in handy after that sizzling belly dance performance!





Spontaneous spouses trying out moves from the Classical Indian dance



Members enjoying Indian cuisine such as naan, tandoori chicken, and lamb leg



An enticing belly-dancing performance



Members enjoying some kacang puteh



Lucky attendee getting her fortune read

NEW STAFF ON THEIR ASPIRATIONS WITH SOS



"I appreciate the confidence SOS has in me and the chance given to perform in my areas of expertise because I understand what we can do as a union to better serve our seafarers."

My aspiration is to serve, support and share knowledge with fellow seafarers in every aspect within the scope of the Union and to uphold the good name of SOS."

–Mr Maximillian Theodore Godfrey Francis,
Assistant Manager

"I am part of a team that is involved in the withdrawal of funds from the Seafarers' Provident Fund (SPF) scheme to members. Hence, due diligence is needed to ensure the funds be returned to the rightful members and/or claimants. I deeply appreciate the opportunity given to enable me serve this organisation. I look forward to contributing and serving the Union to the best of my knowledge."

– Ms Valerie Ong, Accounts Manager



"I am glad to be part of SOS. In the past few months I really enjoy attending the company's events which show multi-cultural and social welfare elements, and have taught me many new things. I hope I can contribute in enhancing the present IT welfare and membership systems. I will also like to develop user friendly, useful and value-added softwares for SOS."

– Ms Geeta Bagga, IT Executive



SEACAREFOCUS


SEACAREFOCUS

SEACAREFOCUS





SEACARE HOLDINGS CHAIRMAN RECEIVES NATIONAL DAY AWARD



In addition to his position as Chairman of the Seacare Holdings and other business involvements, Mr Kong Mun Kwong has more than 35 years of serving the community.


Mr Kong's contribution to the community included serving as Chairman of the Changkat Citizen Consultative Committee (1985-2004) and the founding Secretary of North East Community Development Council (1998-2001). He also helped start the Tampines Town Council and had served since its formation in 1990 until 2010. He served long periods on the Boards of Home Nursing Foundation, Cooperatives of National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) and the Strata Titles Board. Mr Kong chaired Raffles Junior College (1992-2004) and was appointed a Justice of the Peace (2000).

He was appointed board member of the Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE) in 1991 and took over as Chairman five years later. As Chairman, Mr Kong restructured SCORE and provides offenders with more up-to-date industrial skills. He ensures that all SCORE's industrial activities and training programmes are relevant to the prevailing Singapore economy. Today, SCORE manages one of the largest laundries in Singapore, serving 95% of the country's hospitals. As a management organisation, SCORE received the prestigious "Singapore Quality Class" Award from SPRING Singapore in 2010.

Mr Kong co-founded the Community Action for the Rehabilitation of Ex-offenders (CARE) Network with his counterparts from Singapore Prison Service in 2001. As Co-Chairman for CARE Network, Mr Kong helped develop the overall concept for the Yellow Ribbon Project (YRP), which has received wide international recognition and acclaims.

For his contributions to the community, Mr Kong received four National Day Awards, in 1988, 1994, 2005 and 2012, the "Friend of Labour" Award from NTUC in 2003, the "Friend of Co-operatives" from the Singapore National Co-operative Federation in 2005, the National Council Against Drug Abuse Star Award in 2006, and Education Service Awards in 2000, 2002 and 2005. The Distinguished Service Award from the Ministry of Home Affairs was awarded in 2005. In 2011, he also received the NUS Distinguished Alumni Service Award and the National Volunteer of the Year Award from the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre.

Seacare and SOS are proud to render our heartiest congratulations to Mr Kong for his latest National Award.



SEACARE LUMINTECZ LIGHTS UP!

A joint venture between Seacare i-ConnecZ Pte Ltd and U Marketing Services saw the inception of Seacare Lumintecz Pte Ltd (SLPL), a consumer lighting retail store, set in the heartlands of Bukit Merah Central. The collaboration focuses on offering the latest LED innovations by Philips as well as conventional LED lighting products and lighting accessories. The company is all geared up to supply LED lighting to electrical contractors as well as participating in tendering for LED installation projects.

The official opening of SLPL on 30 November 2012 marked not only important milestone in the Seacare story but it also ushered in a new way where Seacare adds value to the human experience and transforms the way we live and work – by offering environmental friendly lighting solutions.

Seacare Lumintecz General Manager Mr Koh Tiak Hwee highlighted:

“We’re really excited about this new business venture as Seacare Lumintecz, an authorised dealer of Philips Home Lighting products, will continue to add depth and breadth to the Seacare brand. This is yet another strong testimony to the group’s continuous pursuit to build profitability and diversity into its businesses.”

Fast Facts on LED Lighting!

- Long operational life
- Reduced power consumption
- Gives off less heat
- Available in strip lighting





SOS and Seacare representatives with SLPL General Manager Mr Koh Tiak Hwee (3rd from left) and Philips Electronics Singapore Pte Ltd General Manager Ms Mieke De Schepper (centre) during the official opening.





SEACARE OKIKI P-HUB ORGANISES VISITS TO SEED INSTITUTE AND LITTLE SKOOL HOUSE



To gain a more professional and advanced direction of early childhood education, the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission (SMEC) paid an enriching visit to Singapore, and was accompanied by Seacare Okiki p-Hub Chief Executive Officer Mr Forest Yuan and Assistant COO of Seacare HR & Lifestyle Cluster Ms Evelyn Siow.

On 30 November 2012, the SMEC delegates, who consisted of Ms Liu Ping Ping, Ms Ye Ling Yee, Ms Yan Fang, Mr Tao Wen Jie, and Mr Ye Wei Liang, visited the SEED Institute and The Little Skool House on the Green located in Orchid Country Club. The visitors and Singapore educators exchanged valuable tips and experiences of pre-school teaching over the afternoon and had in-depth discussion on the education management system of both countries.



POWER PEOPLE SKILLS FOR SEACARE!



Being able to communicate effectively with others requires people skills. And in any productive organisation, communication remains a vital and crucial tool in increasing productivity and propelling the company to move forward.

Seacare Manpower Services organised a workshop on 30 November 2012 to impart such important people skills to Seacare

staff and school staff who wished to improve their leadership potential and interpersonal skills. The participants learned practical methods such as; raising people's morale, applying power to reverse limited thinking, elevating self-esteem and confidence; reinforcing strengths and eliminating weaknesses; catapulting performance; cutting out procrastination; and magnifying success with effective goal setting.





The Participants:

Aung Phyo Min
Buaraj S/O Packirisamy
Chan Mei Mei
Chan Wai Fan
Choor Mei Teen
Chow Chee Kuen Cynthia
Chow Mei Yeng
Foo Say Meng
Goh Foo Chu Cindy
Goh Peng Lin
Halus Binte Saidi
Hamimah Binte Moonsor
Ho Ai Ling

Jamila Binta Saim
Koh Lay Choo
Lee Guek Eng
Lee Puay Meng Rachel
Lee Yuit Wah
Letchimi W/O Ravesadran
Lim Chuan Hoy
Lim Lai Wah
Lim Puay Hoon
Lim Siok Eng
Lim Teck Seng
Ling Wah Tiang
Lock Lai Yang



Low Yit Fong Grace
Neo Yam Hoon
Ng Ah Lian
Ng Poh Chuan
Nuur Rahudah Binte Mosa
Pang Lee Cheng Annie
Patricia Chua
Rohayah Bte Mohamed
Sim Bee Huat
Sim Guek Hong
Suhanah Binte Hamzah
Tan Ah Siew
Tan Beng Kwan Gregory

Tan Hwee Miang Olivia
Tan Siew Loon
Tang Yok Ling
Teo Sok Whay Julie
Wong Xin Hui
Woon Lea Lan
Yeo Ai Hong
Yeo Pei Ling
Yeoh Bon Lay
Zaini Bte Md Yusof



LET THERE BE lumintecz!

Seacare Lumintecz Pte Ltd, a consumer lighting retail store, a first under the Seacare HR & Lifestyle Cluster, marked another milestone even as an exciting 2012 begins to wind down for the year end.

The authorised retailer of Philips Electronics Singapore Pte Ltd opened in November at Bukit Merah Central, to serve residential and project lighting needs in the area. The store carries the latest LED innovation by Philips - the world's number 1 leader in lighting, as well as a comprehensive range of conventional and LED lighting products to complement all interior styles.

COME VISIT US TODAY!

Opening hours: 10am - 8pm daily

Blk 161 Bukit Merah Central
#01-3707 Singapore 150161

Tel: 6271 2948

Seacare Lumintecz Pte Ltd.
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EXCLUSIVE Opening Promotion

1. 10% discount for all SOS/Seacare members and staff.
2. VIP membership for purchase above \$100

*Terms & conditions apply



Deck your home with our LED series -
LUMIWARE Colour-Changing Party Ware series and
IMAGEO LED Candle series.

