

Issue 4
16/17

SAMUDRA

A bi-monthly Publication of the Singapore Organisation of Seamen and Seacare Co-operative Limited

MCI (P) 162/08/2015



Celebrating
Unity, Hope
and **Progress**

Issue 4
16/17

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SAMUDRA

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S\$3M TO HELP SHIPPING COMPANIES DEFRAY ACCOMMODATION, MEDICAL & TRAINING COSTS FOR SEAFARERS



SOS marked its anniversary with a special gift that warms the hearts of seafarers and the shipping community.

“SOS will be committing S\$3 million over the next two years to take care of the welfare of our seafarers in the areas of accommodation, medical and training,” Guest-of-Honour Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister in Prime Minister’s Office and NTUC Secretary-General (SG), announced to a jubilant crowd at the 45th and 22nd anniversaries of SOS and Seacare.

The Seacare Sailors’ Home Scheme (SSS), Seacare Medical Scheme (SMS) and Seacare Maritime Training Scheme (SMTS) will each receive an additional S\$1 million fund from SOS, starting from 2017.



Presently, the SSS, SMS and SMTS offer members and/or shipping companies complimentary accommodation at The Seacare Hotel in Singapore and Seacare Sailors' Home in Manila, Philippines; free medical examinations at The Seacare Maritime Medical Centre in Singapore and appointed clinics in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines; and training grants for Union-approved courses.

The S\$3 million funding will improve the schemes' current benefits. It is part of the Union's efforts to curb the global downturn by helping shipping companies defray overheads while preserving members' employment security.

Organised at the Resorts World Convention Centre on 1 December 2016, the joint anniversary celebrations drew more than 1,000 members, SOS and Seacare staff, tripartite partners and foreign delegates from around the world. A cake-cutting and champagne-toasting ceremony, complete with a grand lucky draw, boosted the festive mood.





SOS President Mohamad Abu Bakar (left) and ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton addressing the crowd



The welcome address was delivered by SOS President Mohamad Abu Bakar who outlined SOS and Seacare's rich histories and noteworthy accomplishments.

Special Guest Mr Stephen Cotton, International Workers Transport Federation (ITF) General Secretary, paid tribute to SOS's compassion for all seafarers. "The Union didn't surrender during the economic crisis in the '80s. It set up Seacare to ensure that seafarers who had lost their jobs could be integrated into society once again," he said. "SOS is straightforward and honest in its negotiations, both within and beyond the maritime industry."



NTUC SG COMMENDS SOS & SEACARE

Under the able leadership of the current Executive Committee, SOS and Seacare have achieved much, said NTUC Secretary-General Chan Chun Seng (right). In his off-the-cuff speech, the Labour Movement chief highlighted that SOS is a positive example of how the Labour Movement...

...Helps Our Workers to Transform and Upgrade Themselves

- The Union comprises more members who are working in non-maritime related industries and local Singaporeans who were previously seafarers.
- Once a seafarer, always a seafarer – with Seacare's assistance, SOS will fulfill its responsibility to care for all members, no matter which industry they belong to.

...Has the Prudence to Invest in the Future

- Under the guidance of its leaders, SOS has carefully accumulated its resources through the generations by making investments that yield high return rates.
- This is a lesson that all our unions and Singapore can follow. The challenges of tomorrow may be unknown, but so long as we muster the use of our resources well, we will be able to take care of our fellow Singaporeans and members.



...Cares for All Seafarers Regardless of Nationality

- SOS encourages an integrated workforce in the maritime industry by looking after both local and non-Singaporean seafarers, who are part of Team Singapore.
- This is the Singapore spirit we are proud of: we are inclusive and open to working closely with foreign members who have contributed to the nation.



I've been an Alternate Member of the SOS Membership & Welfare Services Committee for 17 years. So I'm happy to get the award. SOS is dedicated to helping all seafarers and I'm proud to be part of it.

– **Zakaria Zahit**
Appreciation Award (Silver)

I am grateful to receive this award. I am very happy to be able to share my knowledge and experience with members from the different committees that I have joined since 2001. It was a fruitful and enjoyable journey with SOS all these years.

– **Yeng Yin Leong**
Appreciation Award (Bronze)



APPRECIATING OUR FLOW ON LEADERS

For their invaluable services and unwavering support to the Union throughout the years, nine members were presented with the SOS Appreciation Award. Among them was Brother Mohamed Idris Mohamed Ibrahim, immediate past President of SOS and an active promoter of seamen's rights.

NTUC Secretary-General and Minister in Prime Minister's Office Chan Chun Sing, who was the Guest-of-Honour at the joint SOS/Seacare anniversary celebrations on 1 December 2016 at Resorts World Convention Centre, presented the awards.

SOS also took time to commemorate and remember a special friend of the Union who passed on this year. The late Mr Choo Eng Khoon, who was a founder member of SOS; and SOS-Seacare's legal advisor, was honoured with the Appreciation Award (Leadership Excellence).



Mohamed Idris Mohamed Ibrahim, Appreciation Award (Leadership Excellence) recipient



I am very glad that SOS appreciates my contribution and support to the different committees I joined in the past 30 years. It is a joy to see the Union grow from strength to strength. I am very confident that the young blood will do an even better job to propel SOS into the next phase of growth.

– Abdullah Hj Ahmad
Appreciation Award (Gold)

I joined SOS in 1986. The Union is like family to me and has become an indispensable part of my life. I enjoyed the engaging discussion, debate and challenges to improve the lives of our members, through the different committees I had served in the past 30 years. May SOS and Seacare continue to soar to greater heights!

– Ow Kee Heng
Appreciation Award (Star)



**LEADERSHIP
EXCELLENCE**
Mohamed Idris
Mohamed Ibrahim
Choo Eng Khoon
(posthumous)

STAR
Ow Kee Heng
GOLD
David Lim Eng Seng
Abdullah Hj Ahmad

SILVER
Michael Tham Siang Hock
Woo Suay Long
Zakaria Zahit
Mohammad Pakki
(posthumous)

BRONZE
Yeng Yin Leong



The Maritime Hall



Club@52



Implemented in 2008, the Seacare Sailors' Home Scheme (SSS) is an ongoing initiative by SOS that caters to the accommodation needs of its local and international members and the shipping community. Since 2013, the Union has been handing out an annual S\$250,000 worth of hotel-only vouchers, for free accommodation at The Seacare Hotel, to shipping companies that have Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) with SOS and are participating in the SSS.

Other benefits include 5-nights of fully subsidised accommodation for SOS members at the Citin Seacare Hotel in Kuala Lumpur and the Seacare Sailors' Home in Mandaluyong City, Philippines, and free services provided to international seafarers at the Seacare Drop-In Centre, which is located at Singapore's Pasir Panjang Terminal Building.

Starting 1 January 2017, S\$1million worth of multi-purpose vouchers will be given to CBA shipping companies over the next two years to further reduce their accommodation expenditures.

These multi-purpose vouchers entitle CBA shipping companies to free accommodation at The Seacare Hotel, and free usage of the hotel facilities for their training, seminar, workshop and corporate functions.

The enhanced SSS will entitle SOS members to 8 nights of free accommodation in a standard room per year, at any of the eight SOS-owned hotels worldwide - The Seacare Hotel in Singapore, Citin Seacare Pudu Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, The Victoria Hotel in Manchester, The Big Sleep Hotels in Cardiff, Cheltenham and Eastbourne, Columba Hotel in Inverness, and Best Western Plus Milford Hotel in Leeds. This is an extension of the 5-nights free hotel stays offered to SOS members since December 2014. The free accommodation aims to promote family bonding for members and their families.



8 NIGHTS AT ANY 8 SOS-OWNED HOTELS WORLDWIDE

From **1 January 2017**, SOS members can enjoy **8 Nights*** of **fully subsidised accommodation** (Standard Room + daily breakfast for two) per year, at any **8 SOS-owned hotels** around the world.

**Members can still enjoy the additional 5-nights of complimentary stays at the Seacare Sailor's Home in Manila.*



▲ The Seacare Hotel Singapore



◀ Citin Seacare Pudu Hotel Kuala Lumpur

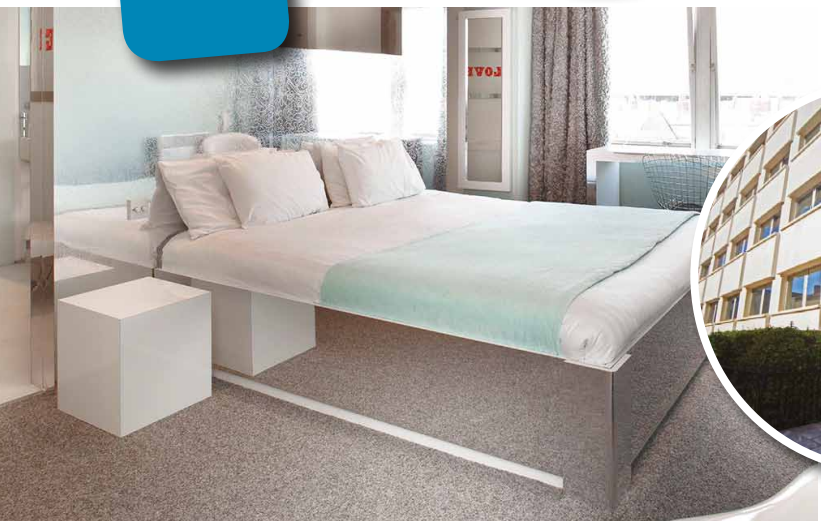




▲ Big Sleep Hotel in Eastbourne
United Kingdom



▲ Big Sleep Hotel in Cardiff
United Kingdom



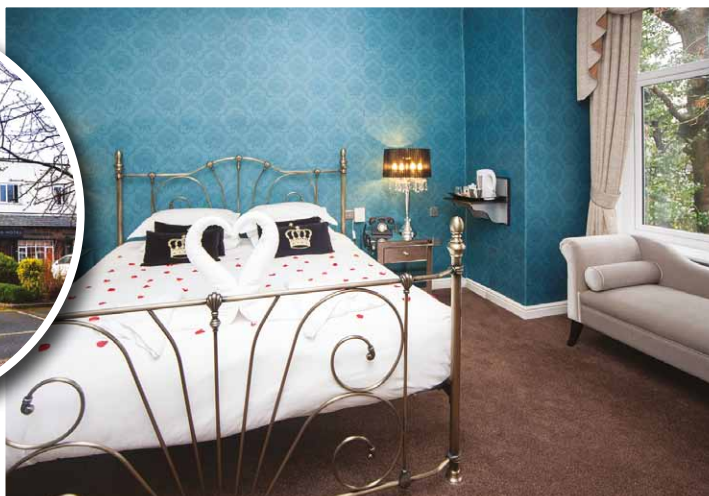
◀ Big Sleep Hotel
in Cheltenham
United Kingdom



◀ Best Western Plus Milton
Hotel in Leeds
United Kingdom



The Victoria Hotel in Manchester ▶
United Kingdom



▲ The Columba Hotel in Inverness
United Kingdom



Reservation **MUST BE
MADE** at least **14 days
in advance** at the SOS
office, 52 Chin Swee Road,
Level 5, Seacare Building,
Singapore 169875.

seAcAre

For more information on reservation and eligibility, please contact the Membership
Services Division at **6379 5666** or email to sosea@seacare.com.sg

ITF ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE



SOS General Secretary
Kam Soon Huat



SOS Assistant Treasurer Sharon Li
(far right)



Together with other International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) affiliates from the Asia Pacific region, SOS embarked on the "Pathway to Congress" (P2C) at the ITF Asia Pacific Regional Conference (APRC) in Tokyo, Japan, from 28 to 30 November 2016.

SOS General Secretary (GS) Kam Soon Huat and Assistant Treasurer Sharon Li attended the conference.

P2C, which directs all ITF regions towards building union power, ensures that the priorities and approach of each part of the ITF fits the Union's 4-level global strategy on organising key hubs and corridors; focusing on key industry players; activating mass union membership; and following geographic shift.

The APRC is the first time the affiliates have met since a review of

the Asia Pacific was carried out by a steering group of regional executive board members and staff to adjust priorities, governance and staffing. Through the conference, affiliates could evaluate the implementation of the congress's decisions and regional work programme, as well as discuss future trends and prepare for imminent challenges in 2018 onwards.

As a member of the steering group, Sharon, who is also co-chair of the ITF Young Transport Workers Committee and women's committee member, reported on the outcomes of the Asia Pacific regional review, and took questions from the floor. She also chaired the Young Workers' Fringe session - Engaging Youth for Stronger Unions, before presenting her report of the fringe event to the conference floor. Sharon highlighted, "We have identified exactly what we should be focusing on, where the energy in the region should lie. We have been able to look at how we incorporate women and youth into our priority projects to make sure there is engagement at grassroots level."

"For effective unionism on the ground, we have to engage from the bottom up, while still maintaining strong leadership in critical areas of research and communication. The campaigns aren't confined to one religion or country," said ITF President and National Secretary of the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Paddy Crumlin. "Across the region it's a time of huge challenges for workers, but also opportunities. We need to look at our collective response to the way technology is impacting our work...to make sure we're focusing our energy in the right places to build worker power regionally and feed our regional successes into a thriving global ITF."

CONNECTING AT ITF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Two fruitful meetings, one zeroed in on the young transport workers while the other focused on the women, were organised by the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) in the month of October last year in Panama City, Panama.

ON YOUNG TRANSPORT WORKERS



About 25 committee members from different parts of the world showed up for the ITF Young Transport Workers Committee meeting on 23 and 24 October 2016, where they discussed reports on activities held in various regions, such as the network-building workshops in Asia Pacific and Africa.

The members were also given an update of the ITF Young Workers Programmes for 2017 to 2018, which include supporting and linking with the ITF Projects and strengthening the network among the young workers.

The meeting concluded with a planning session on the upcoming ITF Young Transport Workers Conference in March 2017, and ITF Congress in 2018.



ON WOMEN TRANSPORT WORKERS

With the welfare of women transport workers in mind, some 30 ITF Women Committee members got together on 17 and 18 October 2016 to discuss methods of improvement. Topics examined ranged from the ITF Congress work priority programmes, to using social media to strengthen campaigns that could end violence against the workers.

The committee also held a roundtable discussion with the Panama union affiliates, and brainstormed ideas for the 2017 International Women's Day and ITF Women's Conference.



ITF WOMENS COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 2016 PANAMA

SOLID EDUCATION FOR A SOLID FUTURE



SOS Treasurer David Sim taking the stage



Mr Desmond Choo, Special Guest and Director of NTUC Youth Development Unit, speaking to the study grant recipients and their families



Children and parents alike were all smiles at this year's SOS Study Grant Presentation Ceremony.

The event, which took place on 8 October 2016 at the NTUC Centre, One Marina Boulevard, saw 103 students accepting study grants and best awards, in recognition of their academic achievements.

In his address, Special Guest and Director of NTUC Youth Development Unit Mr Desmond Choo advised, "As you embark on your journeys in life, you must have your own internal compass. Even when the skies are overcast, you will always know how to come back home and how to get to where you want to be. Your family and the Union support your education and career. These are the people who will provide the compass for you."

"Singapore owes much of its success to seafarers," he added. "Throughout the years, they continue to work hard and ensure that their sons and daughters, the future generation, are taken care of. When you come out to work, never forget how SOS and your family assisted in developing your values and skills."

The SOS Study Grant is just one of the many benefits SOS members receive under the Union's Membership Benefit Scheme, which was first set up in 1978. On top of the Study Grant, SOS Best Awards worth S\$2,100 were presented to 10 students in recognition of their academic excellence.

The SOS Study Grant presentation has become an indispensable part of SOS tradition. Today, even though the number of study grant recipients has decreased, SOS remains committed to help its members defray the necessary expenses incurred in their children's education.



This year, the total value of study grants and best awards disbursed was S\$41,250. This was supported by the NTUC U Care Education Co-Funding Scheme. Through this scheme, U Care Fund provided funding support to the Union to reach out to more beneficiaries.

Congratulations to all recipients of the Study Grant and Best Award 2016!



Both of us have previously received the grant a few times. It gives us a sense of accomplishment and spurs us on. We have also attended many of SOS's events and gone on overseas trips held by the Union. We feel very lucky because most of our friends don't get these opportunities.

– **Shakina Shafie and sister Nur Adibah Kasmani, Secondary student**

It feels wonderful to receive the grant. Not only does it contribute to my family's finances, it compels me to work towards my goals and do them proud.

– **Niyaz Aqmar Danish Abdul Razak, Secondary student**



I'm currently taking a nursing course. As I foot my own school and transport fees, which are quite costly, the study grant helps to relieve my financial burden. I'm very thankful to the Union for rendering assistance, and for organising activities that allow my family and I to get to know other members better.

– **Nur Syafiqah Binte Abdul Samad, University student**



I feel rewarded for my diligence in my exams. It is a morale booster that encourages me to study harder. My family has benefitted greatly from the SOS Study Grant, since my sister also used to be a recipient when she was in primary and secondary school.

– **Danial Tan, Secondary student**

I am happy to be chosen. A big thank you to my mum and dad, and to the Union, for being here for me.

– **Koh Zhiyu, Primary student**



LEADERSHIP TALKS FUEL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

According to John C Maxwell, a well-known author, “A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way”.

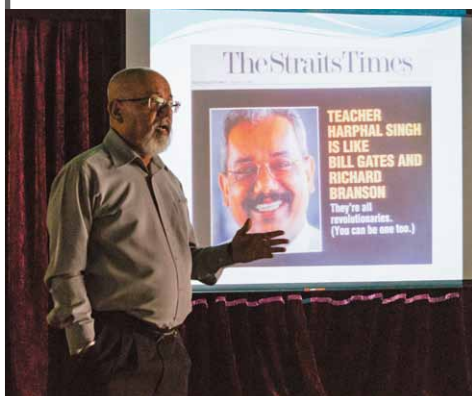
Two humble and trusted Union leaders – SOS Trustee and Pioneer Generation Union Leader Leow Peng Kui, and Educare International Consultancy Principal Specialist Harphal Singh, showed the way of leadership, as they delivered leadership-related presentations to the staff of SOS and Seacare on 6 October and 26 October 2016 respectively. This was part of SOS’s ongoing leadership development initiative for its committee members and staff.



THINKING LEADERS – MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Mr Singh expounded on the basics of leadership such as effective communication, risk-taking and leading by example, and shared how each employee could add value to the organisation and positively transform its culture.

Injecting his explanations on myths like “great leaders are born with the instinct to lead” and “men make better leaders”, and on common cultural norms in companies with wit and humour, Mr Singh kept the participants’ interest level high and motivated them to apply the leadership principles they had learned.





HOW TO BE A GOOD UNION LEADER

At the Seacare Maritime Hall, Mr Leow touched on the modern definition of Servant Leadership being 'the king serves the people' instead of the other way round, and cited instances of exceptional leadership displayed by courageous historical figures. He also shared about how the intention to serve others plays a crucial role in leadership development.

The 50 SOS officers, who connected instantly to Mr Leow's amiable, down-to-earth and selfless nature, gained a good grasp of union leadership ethics and the merits of honesty and integrity through the discussion session.



DE-LIGHT-FUL DEEPAVALI CELEBRATION



(L-R) SOS Executive Secretary Daniel Tan, General Secretary Kam Soon Huat, Vice President Raj Moham, President Mohamad Abu Bakar and Treasurer David Sim lighting the kuthuvilakku



ighting lamps on Deepavali signifies the victory of good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.

This symbolic lighting of the three-foot-tall silver kuthuvilakku, or Indian lamp, was conducted by SOS President Mohamad Abu Bakar, Vice President Raj Moham, General Secretary Kam Soon Huat, Executive Secretary Daniel Tan and Treasurer David Sim during the Union's celebration of the Festival of Lights on 5 November 2016 at Club@52.

Approximately 150 members and their families gathered for the event, which involved a lively Urumi Melam performance and several Bollywood and belly dances. Everyone laughed and cheered as the emcee guided 10 participants through two games on stage, with five of them learning an Indian dance and the other five, a Bhangra dance.

Besides tucking into a delicious array of Indian cuisine such as mackerel curry fish and grilled chicken tandoori skewers, the attendees could also take their pictures at an instant photo print booth or look into their future via tarot readings.

Twenty lucky draw winners received prizes ranging from FairPrice vouchers to a laptop, with Mr Raj presenting the prizes to the top 10 winners on stage. Everyone left Club@52 with door gifts of a LED lamp and a pack of savory muruku.





TANZEN THE NIGHT AWAY

Club@52 was filled with merriment during SOS Members' Night on 15 October 2016, one of the most anticipated Union events of the year.

In accordance with the Oktoberfest theme, members were treated to a sumptuous buffet spread of German food such as bratwurst with sauerkraut, German sausages with pickled cabbage; goulash, a stew of meat and vegetables; and assorted bavarois cakes. The feast was washed down with free flow of German Erdinger beer.

Other activities included a contest where participants dressed up as German ladies, an arm-wrestling tournament, and a game involving coaster-flipping. The usual lucky draw was held, which saw 20 winners gifted with items from German brands like Adidas and Hugo Boss.

Entertainment for the evening came in the form of a live band, accordion and clarinet players, and dancers wearing the traditional German costume, dirndl.



SEAFARERS' PROVIDENT FUND

REMINDER

TO: ALL SOS SEAFARERS' PROVIDENT FUND (SPF) MEMBERS

With the termination of SPF Scheme, all SOS SPF members can come forward to apply for withdrawal from their SPF account.

Documents to be submitted for SPF withdrawal

Please note that:

a) The following are the documents required for withdrawal applications:

i) ALL CASES - Mandatory documents as follows:

- Completed original withdrawal form with signatures of claimant and witness.
- Passport - Current and previous copies showing bio-data and signature pages (if available).
- Seamen book - Current and previous copies showing bio-data & sailing period
- Birth certificate copy or equivalent
- Any form of photo ID copy (e.g.: driving licence, library card, Identification card, residential card)

Secondary documents (if members cannot provide all the mandatory supporting documents due to loss of documents):

- SOS Membership Card
- Seamen card

ii) DECEASED CASES - Additional mandatory supporting documents as follows:

- Death certificate copy
- Lawyer letter to prove claimant as the duly authorised nominee of the Participant, his assign or success or in title or such legal representative duly recognised in law applicable to the Participant;
- Marriage certificate copy (if claimant is the spouse of deceased)
- Birth certificate copy (if claimant is the parent/ child /sibling of deceased)
- Claimant passport copy

b) All documents, except withdrawal forms, must be certified as true copies. The signature of the claimant in the withdrawal form must be witnessed by one of the following groups of people:

- Justice of Peace
- Public Notary
- Lawyer
- Document Issuing Authorities
- SOS / Seacare Regional Offices (if applicable)

c) All forms and supporting documents must be submitted by post or in person.

Withdrawal Forms can be obtained from our SOS Website : www.sosea.org.sg/p-forms.html

For enquiries, please contact us at:

Seacare Thrift Pte Ltd

52 Chin Swee Road, #08-00 Singapore 169875.

Tel: +65 6379 5666 • Email: thrift@seacare.com.sg • Website: www.ispf.org.sg



JOURNEY OF A SEAFARING COOK



Keng Hwee (far right) with fellow trainees during their pastry lessons at SHATEC

For SOS member Neo Keng Hwee, seafaring is probably the most extraordinary job he has ever experienced.

The 39-year-old, who has fanned a passion for cooking since young, recently completed his 15-month stint as a Second Cook from Posh Fleet Services. He found the opportunity to travel the world while undergoing culinary training too attractive to resist, and enrolled into the SOS-initiated Seafaring Cooks Place-and-Train Programme in late 2014.

Keng Hwee's services have brought him on memorable voyages to different parts of the world such as Shanghai, Vancouver and Mauritius, and resulted in him sailing on board vessels like Salvanguard, Terasea Falcon, and Salviscourt. He mused, "How many Singaporeans my age would dare to leave their comfort zones to experience life as a seafaring cook?"

The former kitchen assistant recounted his daily schedule of waking up at 4am to prepare breakfast and commencing his lunch preparation by 7.30am.

"I took a while to adapt. I had sea sickness initially, especially when rough weather lasted for days. Thankfully, all my crewmates took care of me and made me feel at home."

"What I enjoyed most was the chance to work under chief cooks from different countries, such as Indonesia and the Philippines. I sought their advice on whipping up their national delicacies," he added.

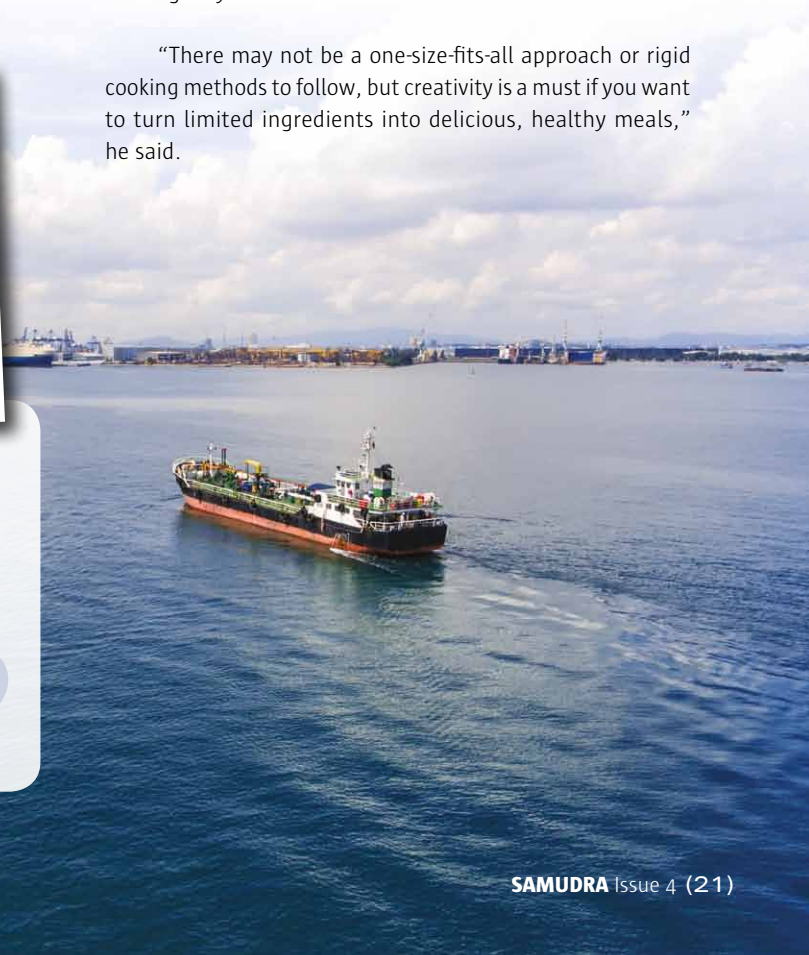
Keng Hwee, who often makes pastries and preserved dishes for the crew in his spare time, said different cooks have various styles and preferences that call for greater flexibility in the galley.

"There may not be a one-size-fits-all approach or rigid cooking methods to follow, but creativity is a must if you want to turn limited ingredients into delicious, healthy meals," he said.



You must change your mindset. Working in the galley is different from working in restaurants on shore, where you can easily replenish your stocks. On ships, cooking is another adventure altogether.

– Neo Keng Hwee, SOS Member



SOS FREE HEALTH SCREENING & EYE EXAMINATION

Keep your health in check with **SOS's complimentary health and eye check-ups***.

Eligible local members and their dependants (one per member) are entitled to:

- 1) **1 FREE Basic Health Screening** (including cancer marker) at Seacare Maritime Medical Centre (SMMC)
- 2) **1 FREE Eye Examination** and **special eyewear package** at New Optometry and Ocular Care Centre (NOOCC)

Visit **SOS Membership Services Division office on Level 5** to book an appointment or call **6379 5671/672/689** for enquiry.

** Benefit ends 31 March 2017*



Collection of SOS Year End Gift 2016

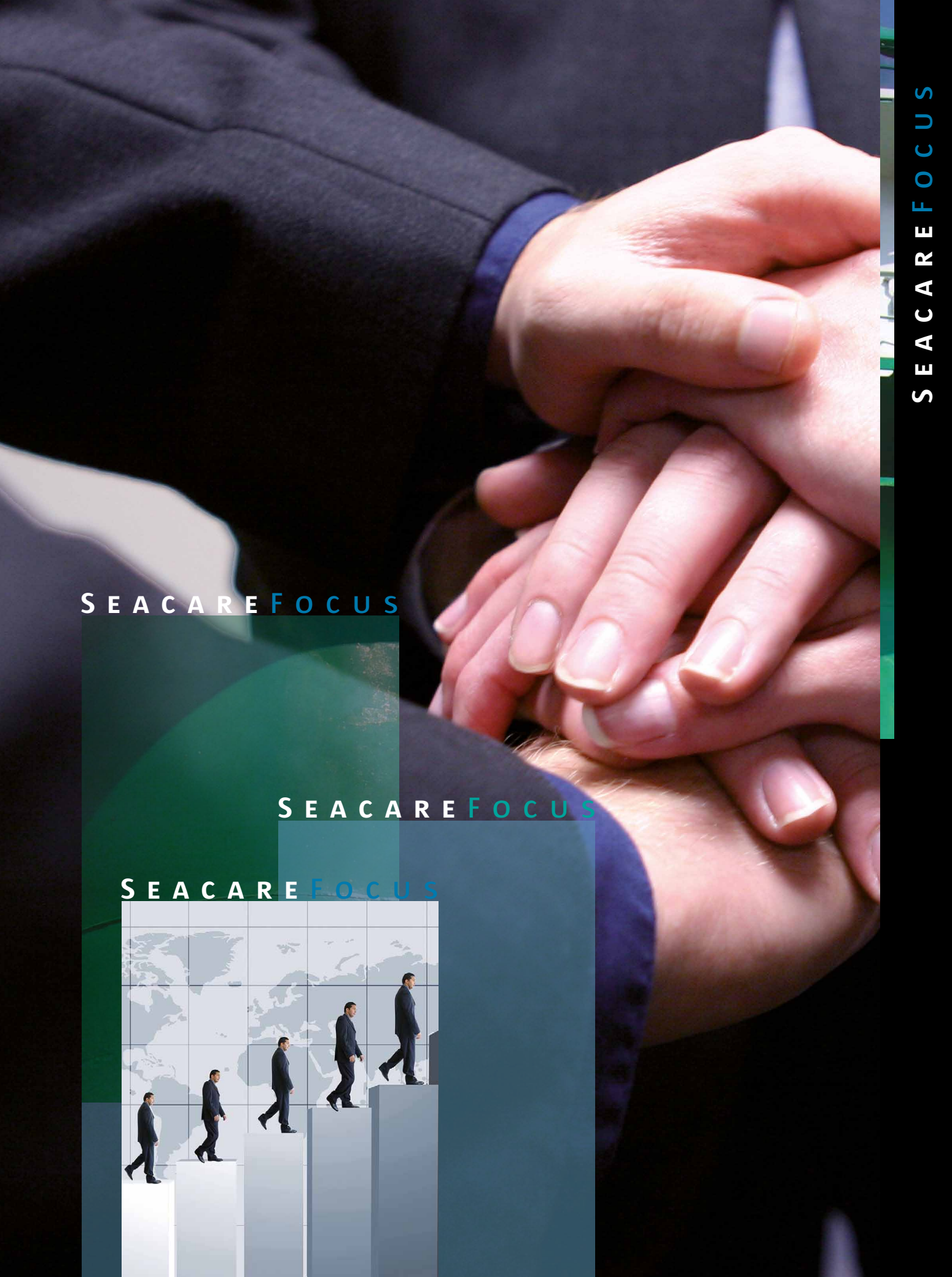
The Year End Gift is a **HappyCall Alumite "Hi-Pure Ceramic" Die-Cast Stock Pot**.

You / any of your family members (with valid identification card) may collect it at our office at Level 5, Seacare Building, at the following timing:

9.00 am to 5.30 pm (Mon to Fri)
9.00 am to 12.30 pm (Sat)



*There will be no collection on Sunday and Public Holidays. All gifts must be collected by **31 March 2017** or while stocks last.*



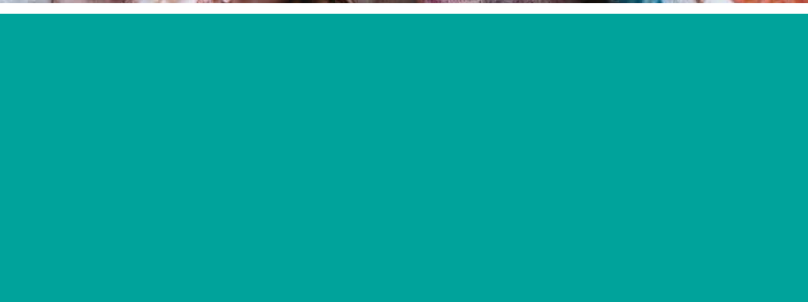
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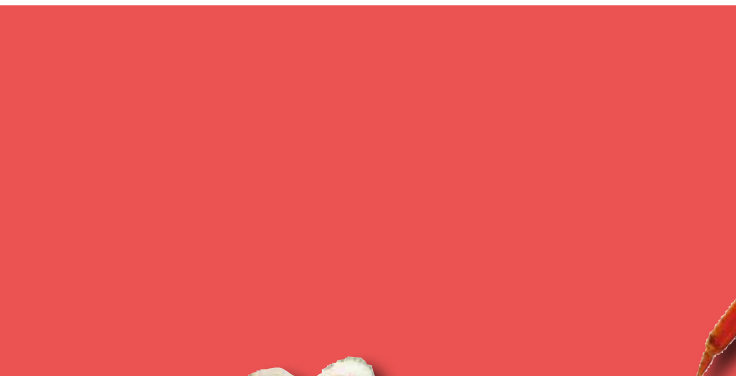
A FRESH TAKE ON SEACARE TRADEPLUS

Singapore has one of the highest seafood consumption rates in the world per capita, with its people consuming 22 kilograms of seafood yearly – 2 kilograms more than the global average.

“Seacare TradePlus is poised to take a big bite of the market,” said Mr Lee Van Chong, Managing Director of Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd and Director of Seacare TradePlus Pte Ltd.

To meet the growing demand of fresh, quality seafood by discerning Singaporean consumers, Seacare TradePlus, a joint venture between Seacare Manpower Services and 2J Holdings Pte Ltd, combs the world to import seafood at its best.

Set up in September 2016, Seacare TradePlus seeks to build strong and sustainable long-term partnerships with suppliers and consumers. As such, the company prides itself on providing a wide variety of wholesome and fresh seafood that is custom-cut to meet consumers’ demands for convenience cooking.



Its import of chilled and frozen salmon, cod, tuna and live and frozen lobsters, among others, comes from reputable fish farms and fisheries from countries such as Norway, Australia, Scotland and Canada. The company's global network ensures the year-long availability of seafood and prevents price fluctuations.

To encourage sustainable consumption of seafood, Seacare TradePlus is looking to increasing the import of farmed fish as a more ecologically sustainable alternative to the rapidly declining fish population in the wild. Farmed fish also costs less due to steadier and more dependable supplies.

Seacare TradePlus also imports fresh and salt water shrimps to supply to local wholesalers and supermarkets; chilled shrimps are farmed in Malaysia while frozen shrimps are imported from Thailand, Vietnam and China.

"Consumers today are looking for fish that derived from sustainable sources that ensure the conservation of natural habitat and marine biodiversity," Seacare TradePlus Manager Thomas Yeap said.





In addition, major players in the hospitality and Food and Beverage industries have banned shark's fin soup and other endangered sea creatures like bluefin tuna to mitigate environmental damage.

By partnering fish farms which have earned the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification – two of the highest industry standards for responsibly farmed seafood, Seacare TradePlus is upholding the environmentally friendly movement in the process. Typically, the farmed seafood will bear “Responsibly Farmed” and “ASC/MSC certified” labels.

To meet the modern demands of consumers, Seacare TradePlus has taken to supplying fillets in loose, tray or vacuum-packed forms that ease preparation time and give off a milder smell.



Apart from seafood, Seacare TradePlus also imports fresh fruits such as Fuji apples. It is reported that annually, over 10,000 tons of these popular seasonal fruits are kept in chillers to preserve their freshness, prior to their distribution to supermarkets.



About Seacare TradePlus Pte Ltd

We supply fresh and frozen seafood of the highest quality from all over the world.

Our Commitment

We put you first before anything else. Our partnerships with reliable farms and processing plants ensure that you get what you need at reasonable prices.

Our Vision

- Create a strong brand image and recognition.
- Expand our distribution network, further strengthening our market presence in Singapore and around the region.
- Increase our product range so that our customers have access to more products and new ideas.

IMPORTANCE OF CO-OPERATIVES REAFFIRMED

The 12th Regional Assembly and 9th Co-operative Forum of the International Cooperative Alliance Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) held in New Delhi, India, from 15 to 18 November 2016 registered a turnout of over 600 co-operators from the Asia Pacific region.

Among the delegates representing Singapore at the event were Seacare Co-operative representative Shena Foo, Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF) Chairman Kwek Kok Kwong and CEO Dolly Goh, and other officers from SNCF and Singapore Government Staff Credit Co-operative.

The election of the ICA-AP Regional Board for the term of 2016 to 2020, which took place during the Assembly, saw Mr Kwek being elected as a board member.

Under the theme, “Co-operatives: The Power to Act for a Sustainable Future”, the Assembly discussed the impact and achievements of co-operatives in Asia Pacific, and adopted several resolutions – such as investing in education, training and research activities for members, and building partnerships

with the government – that would contribute to the co-operatives’ development.

At the Co-operative Forum, SNCF CEO highlighted how co-operatives tackled the issue of an aging population. Ms Goh, together with Ms Foo, participated in the Women’s Committee Meeting.

Seacare extends its heartfelt congratulations to Mr Kwek on being elected as a ICA-AP board member, and wishes him all the best in his new position.



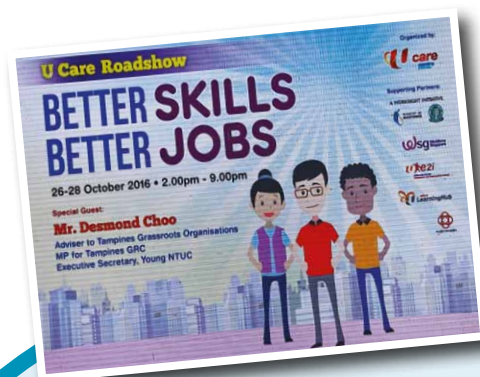
SEACARE MANPOWER SERVICES REACHES OUT TO THE HEARTLANDS



With an extensive list of job placement opportunities, the Seacare Manpower Services team hit the streets to reach out to job seekers and spread the good news.

In October 2016, Seacare Manpower Services, one of the biggest and most reputable suppliers of manpower in Singapore, participated in five roadshows – Jurong Country Club, e2i, Project Success, Workforce Singapore Career Centre @ Tampines and NTUC U Care.

The roadshows provided a convenient touch point for job seekers seeking permanent to ad-hoc placements and short to long-term employment contracts. With Seacare Manpower Services' wide network of clientele, ranging from statutory boards to NTUC associated companies, from private companies to schools, job seekers found themselves in a better position to find better jobs and have better careers.



To find out more about Seacare Manpower Services's jobs and services, visit

<http://www.seacaremanpower.com/> or www.facebook.com/SeacareManpower

Tel: 6379 5632

Email: placement@seacaremanpower.com

GOING FOR BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY



Businesses need to target for sustainable growth if they are to overcome today's economic challenges.

Twelve officers from Seacare Co-operative Ltd got down to business and explored the ways in which companies could do just that at the Service Sectors Leaders' Retreat on 25 and 26 November 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand. Organised by Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF), the retreat, themed "Business Sustainability", saw the participating service sector co-operatives re-evaluating their goals and business models.

Topics of discussion included 2016's key trends of using digital platforms to deliver Human Resources services; simplifying workplace complexities through design thinking, for increased productivity; and the readiness to lead in a complicated global marketplace. Participants also delved into the five growth clusters of the future, namely Advanced Manufacturing, Applied Health Science, Smart Sustainable Urban Solutions, Logistics & Aerospace, and Asian & Global Financial Service.

As United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon put it, "co-operatives are a reminder to the international community that it is possible to pursue both economic viability and social responsibility."



We learnt to recognise our company's strengths, problems, opportunities and threats. In the new century, using pictorial images during meetings will likely lead to a quicker execution of tasks, due to the attendees remembering more. Networking is also important and businesses should get to know their partners personally.

– Florence Tan, Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd

It was my first time participating in such a retreat. It's a beneficial initiative for those involved, as we get to understand each co-operative's mission and widen our social circle. The learning approach of visual thinking encourages creativity and broadens our mindsets.

– Nurulhuda Othman, Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd

The retreat provides highly applicable business knowledge, which is excellent.

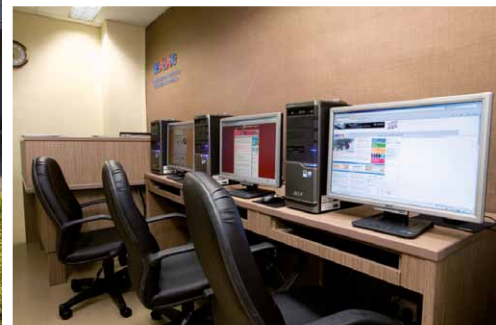
– Tang Yit Mei, Seacare Holdings Pte Ltd

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