

Issue No. 3 (October 2008)

# samudra

A Bi-Monthly Publication of the Singapore Organisation of Seamen and Seacare Co-operative Limited

Mica (P) No. 153/03/2008



**World Maritime Day  
Celebrated**

Issue No. 3 (October 2008)

# samudra

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**seAcAre**

## contents

### Welfare and Social Activities

- 12 SOS Study Grant Presentation Ceremony 2008
- 15 Members Get the Ball Rolling At Tombola Night
- 18 Members' Night
- 18 Upcoming Events



### Features

- 3 Task Force Presents Strategies to Hit 20,000 Membership Mark by 2011
- 5 SOS GS addresses at the Opening of Medical Centre in Bali
- 6 Hampers Distributed As Shipping Community Celebrates World Maritime Day
- 8 Singapore Nautical Run Takes Off
- 10 300 Guests Light Up the Night
- 11 Golf Retreat – SOS and Friends Get a Taste of Surabaya



### Training

- 14 Get Your Class 4 and Class 5 Driving License with Us Now

### Membership

- 16 Change to Your New NTUC UPlus Membership Card

### Industrial Relations

- 9 SOS IR Officers Get In Touch with 139 Seafarers

### Seacare Focus

- 20 Seacare Prepared and Primed to Meet Tough Times
- 23 Seacare Chairman Re-elected to SNCF Exco
- 24 New Director Joins Seacare MarinePlus
- 25 Playing Host to the Co-operative League of Thailand
- 26 Seacare Invests in Water Treatment Projects in Inner Mongolia
- 28 Seacare Landscape Scores Another Deal
- 29 Tree Doctor Joins Seacare Landscape
- 30 Seacare - the Name that Opens Doors



## TASK FORCE PRESENTS STRATEGIES TO HIT 20,000 MEMBERSHIP MARK BY 2011

SOS leaders and staff were brought together for a purposeful workshop – to brainstorm on how to enlarge the membership pool of SOS so that more lives can be positively impacted by the Union.

The backbone of SOS, the union members, was the focal point of the Workshop on SOS Membership which was held in Bali from 14 to 17 August 2008. The 31 leaders comprising of SOS Exco members, Membership Task Force (MTF) representatives and staff deliberated on the findings and recommendations of the MTF.

The MTF had the challenge of thinking out-of-the box to have more members represented.

The MTF completed its intensive study and put forward a list of recommendations for discussion and adoption. The recommendations were presented at the workshop by Ms Julia San, Secretary of MTF.

Ms Adila Juman, Admin. Secretary of the SOS Welfare & Community Services Committee, also brought the workshop participants through the wide range of existing SOS Membership Benefit Schemes.

Other issues which were delved into included SOS Social and Community Services Activities and NTUC membership benefits such as NTUC Gift, NTUC Care & Share vouchers, NTUC May Day Carnival, activities by Young NTUC and NTUC funding schemes.





## The SOS Membership Task Force Recommends:

### **ACHIEVING**

total membership target of 20,000 by year 2011

### **EXPANDING**

the scope of SOS ordinary membership

### **INCREASING**

cadre membership strength with inclusion of female cadre members

### **REVISING**

the qualifying age and length of ordinary membership for associateship for life

### **CONDUCTING**

feasibility study to explore effective ways of distributing union membership card to foreign participating members

### **INTENSIFYING**

campaign to recruit more participating (general branch) members.



# SOS GS ADDRESSES THE OPENING OF MEDICAL CENTRE IN BALI



Seafarers in Bali now have a medical centre of international standard to serve their healthcare needs. And to celebrate this milestone was SOS General Secretary Mr Leow Ching Chuan who was invited to deliver and address at the grand opening of Padma Bahtera Medical Center on August 16, 2008. Joining him were the SOS workshop participants.

The medical centre is the joint development project of the Kesatuan Pelaut Indonesia (KPI, Indonesian Seamen's Union), Koperasi Serba Usaha Pelaut Bali (KPB, Bali Seafarers' Credit Union) and private investors with a stake in maritime industry and a concern for seafarers.

In his speech, Mr Leow congratulated KPI and KPB and delivered an encouraging message: "Based on our own experience in setting up our Seacare Maritime Medical Centre, we know how much hard work and problem-solving have to be done before the Padma Bahtera Medical Center becomes a reality. We frankly admire you all for your vision and determination."

With more than 10,000 active Balinese seafarers working around the world and thousands of international seafarers visiting the island annually, the opening of Padma Bahtera Medical Center will certainly improve their lives. It will also serve their families through medical assistance and insurance programs developed with KPI and KPB as well as the surrounding community.



# HAMPERS DISTRIBUTED AS SHIPPING COMMUNITY CELEBRATES WORLD MARITIME DAY AT THE LAUNCH OF NEWLY REVAMPED SMC



In conjunction with the World Maritime Day, SOS, together with the Maritime Port and Authority of Singapore (MPA) and Singapore Maritime Officers' Union (SMOU) along with affiliates and members of the shipping community were present on 13 October 2008 to hand out hampers to the ships calling at the Singapore port during the Singapore Maritime Week. The hamper distribution was witnessed by the Guest-of-Honour NTUC Secretary-General Lim Swee Say and MPA Chief Executive BG (NS) Tay Lim Heng. A total of 600 hampers were given out.

"This gesture, which shows appreciation for seafarers' important contribution to shipping and global seaborne trade, is an initiative that is unique to Singapore. But, more importantly, it reflects the close relations and tripartite cooperation between MPA, ship owners, and the seafarer unions in Singapore," said Guest-of-Honour, NTUC Secretary-General Mr Lim Swee Say in his address.

The strong tripartite relationship among the unions, government body and shipping companies has been exemplary, such as in the case of building drop-in centres at the various ports for seafarers to have some time and space to call home or catch up on the current affairs, during their stopovers.

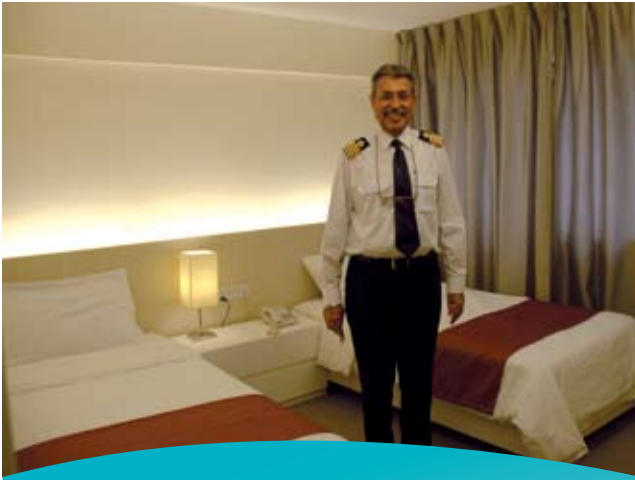
***"We feel committed to do something for the seafarers especially on World Maritime Day. It's been a practice for SOS to contribute towards the hamper distribution and we are happy to be part of the day that marks the importance of the shipping industry. It's our way of acknowledging the services and hard work put in by the seafarers and the maritime community at large,"*** pointed out SOS General Secretary Mr Leow Ching Chuan.



For some shipping associates who were there to observe the hamper distribution for the first time, the event was an eye-opening moment that left a good impression.

"I think it's an excellent gesture," said Mr Sun Hailun, Assistant Manager, Fleet Personnel Management, A.P. Moller Singapore Pte Ltd.

Initiated by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the World Maritime Day is in its third year running. This year, the theme adopted by the IMO for the World Maritime Day is "IMO: 60 Years in The Service of Shipping."



### Quality Accommodation Especially for Seafarers

Here in Singapore, the celebration to highlight the services rendered by our seafarers takes on another level. The launch of the newly revamped Singapore Mariners' Club (SMC) located at 120 Cantonment Road was a symbolic move that reflects our appreciation towards the seafarers.

"The SMC offers a very good deal. I think it's something to be really happy about," said Capt Francis Joseph, Chairman, Singapore Maritime Employers' Federation.

The newly refurbished facility owned and managed by the MPA, houses 46 units for single, double and triple occupancy at discounted rates for seafarers, lounge, medical centre and a bar / restaurant.

Comparing the premises before and after its revamp, Capt VG Hingorani was impressed with the transformation.

*"It's one of the best I have seen so far. There are definitely a lot of changes done here from the last time I visited the place. The rooms have improved and I am certain the seafarers would enjoy their stay here,"* said Capt Hingorani.





# RUNNING FOR A CAUSE



## SOS JOINS IN THE NAUTICAL RUN

The Singapore Nautical Run takes off with some 1,300 participants gathered together at the East Coast Park having a common goal – to raise funds for The President's Challenge and The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund.

It was also a clear sign of support from SOS, which contributed as the Silver Donor for the event. The Union sent two teams comprising of six runners each and sponsored a total of \$1,000 for each team.

Organised by MPA and co-organised by the Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA), the Nautical Run also marked the start of the Singapore Maritime Week.

SOS President Mr Tan Jing Bock was on stage together with Guest-of-Honour, Mr Raymond Lim, Minister for Transport and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs, and BG (NS) Tay Lim Heng, Chief Executive of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) to kick start the event. In total, the Run managed to raise a sum of \$333,000.

"We take this chance to contribute towards a good cause, as part of the maritime community. The run is also a good time to promote a healthy lifestyle for all of us," said Mr Tan.





# EVERY SHIP VISIT MATTERS

## SOS IR OFFICERS GET IN TOUCH WITH 139 SEAFARERS

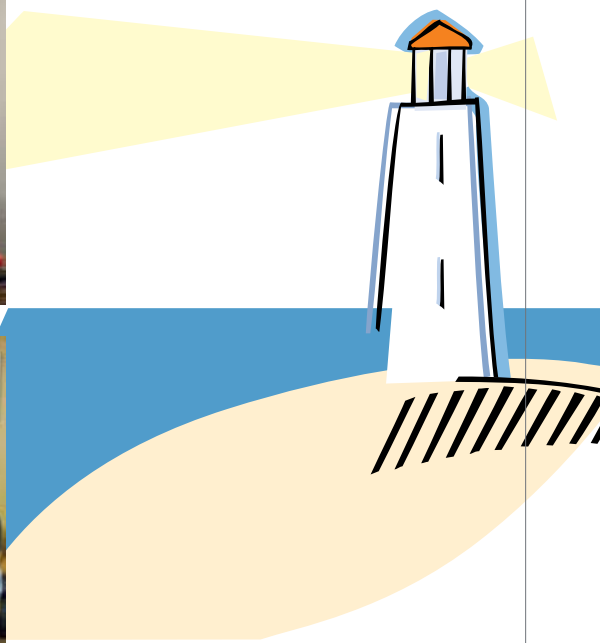
Often, we read of how SOS Industrial Relations (IR) Senior Manager Mr Mohamed Idris Bin Mohamed Ibrahim and IR Executive Mr Mohamad Bin Abu Bakar doing their rounds of ship visit every month, bearing gifts and good news to the seafarers working on board the vessels.

And they keep going strong at it. This is because each and every visit serves as a new learning ground for our IR officers, getting in touch with different members, drawing from them first hand news on what is going on at sea.

The sharing session also provides the opportunity for better relations and understanding between the Union representatives and the seafarers.

A total of 14 vessels were visited in August and September this year. Seafarers were presented with dynamo flash lights, fitness bags, socks, posters as well as cakes.

The visits remain an integral part of the IR division's framework, and as far as the Union goes, our seafarers take top priority and that is why every ship visit matters to us – to know that appropriate and practical measures are put in place, to ensure that our members are in good hands wherever they are.





# 300 GUESTS LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

SOS EXCO and standing committee members sparked at the Mid Autumn Festival Gathering held at Club@52, as they sang and enjoyed the company of more than 300 guests.

The guests included shipping executives, Seacare's business partners, directors of Seacare group of companies, officials from government-related organisations as well as representatives from the labour and co-operative movements.

After the cocktail reception, Mr Leow Ching Chuan, General Secretary of SOS and Chairman of Seacare Co-operative Ltd delivered his welcoming note to invited guests, thanking all for their attendance and encouraging them to take the opportunity to rest, unwind and enjoy the night. The crowd was entertained by the talented trio – the Roving Amigo band, while they indulged in the sumptuous hawker styled buffet spread.

The Mid Autumn Festival, celebrated with the eating of moon cakes is symbolic of closeness and unity. Guests were presented with two moon cakes each as a gift. The gathering has managed to bridge new ties, connect and meet new people through social networking, giving the celebration a memorable end to it.





***“Thank you very much for the nice photos which will give us fond memories of the great time we had in Surabaya. Everything was very well-organised. We appreciate it!”***

Mr Vincent Pan, Managing Director, Monsoon Maritime Services Pte Ltd

***“Thank you for organising such a wonderful event, I enjoyed every minute of it! I am deeply moved by your generous goodwill and the touching hospitality shown to me. I assure you, dear friends, the pleasure is all mine.”***

Mr Koh Tiak Hwee, Director, Alfiah Parts Trading Pte Ltd



## GOLF RETREAT – SOS AND FRIENDS GET A TASTE OF SURABAYA

The annual golf tournament organised by SOS has taken a twist this year.

Held at the scenic greens of Surabaya, Indonesia, this year’s game is a three day event that was aimed at bringing affiliates and friends of SOS closer together. They were there from 29 August to 31 August 2008.

Invited guests from the shipping and medical industry as well as directors of the Seacare Group of Companies alike, got into the heat of the game, cheering on one another as ties and friendships were reaffirmed.

The “Play and Stay” concept of the retreat was a welcoming change, with an overseas venue that gave the guests a relaxing and enjoyable time.





# AN AWARD WORTH 154 STUDENTS RECEIVE SOS STUDY

It's a moment any proud parent looks forward to every year. The SOS Study Grant, is among the many membership benefits which has been set in place by SOS since 1978. Every year, SOS members have the opportunity to apply for study grants on behalf of their children.

This year, the SOS Study Grant Presentation Ceremony was held at the NTUC Centre on 6 September 2008. Mr Zainudin Nordin, Director, NTUC Care & Share and Mayor, Central Singapore District, who was the Guest-of-Honour, affirmed the Union's stand on promoting education. During his speech, Mr Zainudin Nordin also applauded SOS parents for setting the example

and encouraging their children to strive for excellence in education.

A total of \$45,350 was awarded to 154 deserving students ranging from primary to tertiary level education. From the beaming faces all across the room, one could almost sense the spirit of pride filling the place as each student went on stage to receive their grants.

If there's anything worth waiting for, it's a reward for hard work and in this case, SOS members' children can truly say it's the SOS study grant that's worth studying for! Congratulations to both parents and their children.



# STUDYING FOR GRANT AWARD 2008

Terence You has been a recipient of SOS study grant since he was in his primary school. Now in his final year at NTU, reading Biological Science course, he shared how the SOS study grant has helped him all these years for his educational expenses like textbooks and stationeries.



The father of first-time recipient, Muhammad Asyraf Bin Abdul Aziz, an SOS member since 1994, was spontaneous in thanking SOS, "The Union provides a lot of benefits for its members. I reap benefits such as the training courses. I took ITE courses through the help of SOS and obtained driving licences from class 4 up to 5. In fact, I'm entitled to two courses annually and I make sure I don't let the opportunity for upgrading pass me by."



Nuramalina Binte Bahari sees the study grant as a good incentive to keep up the good work and an encouragement from the Union. The second year Business Administration student from ITE attributes consistent self-studying and revision as the key to producing good results.





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- You should be at least 21 years old based on date of birth
- Physically and mentally fit
- Able to read at a distance of 25 metres and above and not suffering from colour blindness (single and double sight)
- Have not accumulated more than 12 demerit points under Driver Improvement Points System (DIPS)
- Qualified / Provisional Driving License not under revocation, disqualification or suspension period
- Possess a class 3 Singapore Qualified Driving License to enrol for Class 4 and a Class 4 to enrol for class 5 License course respectively

## Enrolment Documents:

- NRIC or valid passport
- Singapore Qualified Driving License and Provisional Driving License
- Recent passport size photograph
- For foreigners, a valid student / dependant pass or a Permanent Resident Pass is required

## Course Fees:

Enrolment Fee (valid for one year):	
Class 4	\$80
Class 5	\$80
Theory lesson	\$20
Practical Lesson (50 mins):	
Off-peak Timing	\$55
Peak Timing (surcharge of \$5 for fixing instructor)	\$59
Course Renewal (6 months basis)	\$40



- All fees / payment subject to GST charges
- All fees subject to change without prior notice

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# MEMBERS GET THE BALL ROLLING



Mention Tombola Night and you'll see SOS members getting all excited at the prospects of striking some luck in their game.

The Seletar Ballroom of Holiday Inn Atrium Hotel was filled up with a total of 144 members eager to get the ball rolling. With 20 lucky draw prizes awaiting the winners, members could not wait to start the game, making 22 August 2008, a close-knit gathering where the players were in high spirit, cheering on one another throughout the night.

The Holiday Inn Atrium Hotel also contributed to the spark and happiness of the night by sponsoring a special prize for the winner – an Asian buffet lunch vouchers for two, at the Melting Pot Café.

A great evening to distress and relax with the company of close friends, the Tombola Night has proven to be a successful event that brought members together for a fun-filled activity.





**U can!**

An Exclusive Union Privilege

# Change to your new membership card Uplus



Uplus is the Preferred NTUC Membership Card. Free for life\* for all NTUC members, it gives you more LinkPoints, more Savings and more U-Power to enjoy life to the fullest!

Visit [www.ntuc.org.sg/uplus](http://www.ntuc.org.sg/uplus) from 10 Oct 2008 for details and to change to your Uplus Card. Members will also be receiving the new U Card.

Sign up now!

**Free for Life\***



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Win OSIM Noro Massage Chairs, OSIM I-Squeeze, OSIM U-Zap, stylish Lanvin Watches, 288 LinkPoints and many more attractive prizes in our SURE WIN lucky draw!

**Birthday 15% discount**  
from Samsung

It's our way of saying Happy Birthday to you! Enjoy Birthday 15% discount\* and Welcome Gift\* from Samsung.

Be our **STAR!**

Spend a minimum of S\$2000 with Uplus Card within 3-month promotion period to receive STAR Perks Vouchers\* and STAR treatment!

Enjoy Golden Village Movies at **reduced** prices!

Charge to your Uplus Card at any Golden Village cinema to enjoy discounted\* movie ticket prices and enjoy S\$1.00 off promotional "combo set meal" of the week.



Uplus is offered by OCBC Bank  
(Company Registration No. 193200032W)



Uplus is the new name for NTUC Plus with effect from 26th September 2008



# Fighting Inflation with Uplus!

Enjoy **10% petrol discount, 3% rebates<sup>^</sup>** & Thanks! Points at all Caltex stations in Singapore.

Enjoy **20 more LinkPoints** for every \$100 spent at NTUC FairPrice till 31 Dec 2009<sup>\*</sup>.



**LinkPoints is Cash!** You can **redeem LinkPoints** for **cash<sup>+</sup>**. Enjoy the special rate of 2990 LinkPoints for \$20 cash till 31 Dec 2009<sup>!</sup>

**Extra 6 months validity** for your LinkPoints. You have more time to save for your big reward! No more 30 June.  
**With Uplus, it's now 31 December!**

## Change to Uplus Card to enjoy more!

### More Savings

- Get a Free Savings Account that requires no initial deposit, no minimum monthly balance and no monthly fees<sup>\*</sup>
- StarPerks! Special attractive vouchers will be sent to you! Just spend a minimum of S\$2000 during the 3-month promotion period<sup>†</sup>
- Redeem your online rewards at super preferential rates! Only at [linkpoints.com.sg](http://linkpoints.com.sg)

### More U-Power

- Shop at NTUC FairPrice with one card to pay and earn rebates<sup>‡</sup> & LinkPoints<sup>†</sup>
- Enjoy mouth-watering offers from LinkPoints Gold and OCBC FLAVOURS dining merchants

### More LinkPoints

- Earn LinkPoints Worldwide with VISA signature based transactions! You'll be earning more LinkPoints in a shorter time
- Get more LinkPoints at over 600 LinkPoints preferred merchants outlets
- Earn additional 30% LinkPoints from NTUC Income motor insurance. (Available at NTUC Customer Service Centre, One Marina Boulevard)

<sup>\*</sup>Prevailing monthly NTUC membership fees still apply.

<sup>†</sup>5% station discount and 5% petrol discount (payment with Uplus). An additional 3% rebate will be credited in your monthly OCBC statement subject to a min. \$300 nett petrol spending in a calendar month. Discounts & rebates are subject to change without notice. Applicable for petrol purchases only. Information is correct at the time of printing.

<sup>‡</sup>Redemption can be done at [www.linkpoints.com.sg](http://www.linkpoints.com.sg). Cash will automatically be deposited into the NTUC-OCBC Starter Account in the following month. Only for NTUC-OCBC Starter Account holders.

<sup>\*</sup>Offer starts from 1 Oct 2008

<sup>†</sup>Refers to NTUC-OCBC Starter Account.

<sup>‡</sup>Terms and Conditions apply for all offers and benefits. For more information, please visit [www.ntuc.org.sg/uplus](http://www.ntuc.org.sg/uplus)





## IT'S YOUR NIGHT

Members' Night needs no introduction to SOS members. The fun event catered especially for the members aims to forge better friendship and create a special time for SOS members to bond with one another.

This time round, a total of 115 members turned up at Club@52, putting their vocal chords to test by belting out familiar tunes from the karaoke set.

The event, held on 27 September 2008 also saw twenty members emerging as winners from the Lucky Draw. The lucky members were presented with prizes comprising of NTUC FairPrice vouchers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **SOS 37th / Seacare 14th Anniversary Dinner**

Date : 19 December 2008  
Venue : DXO @ Colours of the Bay,  
Esplanade

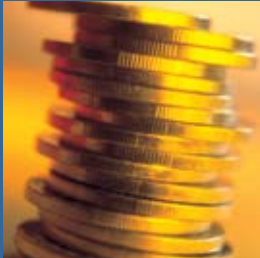


### **Year End Reception for SOS Indonesian Members in Jakarta**

Date : 26 December 2008  
Venue : Sari Pan Pacific Hotel

### **A Lunch Date With AWWA**

Date : 9 December 2008  
Venue : Club@52



# Seacare Focus



**seAcAre**  
**SEACARE CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED**  
**14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
CLUB@52, THURSDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008



# SEACARE PREPARED AND TO MEET TOUGH TIMES

This quiet confidence was articulated by Mr Leow Ching Chuan, Seacare Chairman, who highlighted that Seacare is “solidly entrenched enough to not only withstand but overcome whatever adverse conditions that we may encounter”. In fact, the Seacare Group is on the look out – for new investment opportunities in Singapore and

beyond; and for new ways to “do more, give more and serve more”.

The Group, said Mr Leow at the Seacare Annual General Meeting held on 18 September 2008 at Club@52 has been constantly exploring and appraising suitable investment opportunities so as to ensure its continuing development.

One such investment venture is found in the field of maritime medical services. “We are quite satisfied that we have entered into a very promising investment avenue. Expansion in this direction meets our twin objectives of serving the needs of seafarers as enshrined in our mission statement and ensuring the viability of our Seacare Group.”





Further commenting on the medical arm, Mr Leow underlined that through SMMC tie-ups with regional medical service providers, SOS-linked seafarers and their dependents in several countries in the region can now enjoy healthcare benefits. SMMC has 11 affiliated clinics in the Philippines, two in Indonesia and one each in Malaysia, Vietnam and China. Besides catering to the medical needs of seafarers, "these SMMC clinics represent a manifestly visible return of investment to our Seacare Group's main shareholder, the SOS, whose members are the beneficiaries".

Seacare Landscape Pte Ltd also stood out in the year under review. The company succeeded in improving on its standing to the extent of being accorded a L1 grading by the Building and Construction Authority. With its L1 grading, Seacare Landscape can now tender for projects up to the \$750,000 limit.

Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd also performed well during the review period. Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd had also responded to the trade union movement and government's call

***"We are quite satisfied that we have entered into a very promising investment avenue. Expansion in this direction meets our twin objectives of serving the needs of seafarers as enshrined in our mission statement and ensuring the viability of our Seacare Group."***

**Mr Leow Ching Chuan,  
Seacare Chairman**

to recruit new workers on a part-time or flexible work arrangement and create more job opportunities for mature workers. In view of this, it was given grants under the Flexi-Works! and Advantage! Scheme.



## PRIMED

The Seacare Medical Holdings Pte Ltd (SMH) was thus established to serve as an investment holding company with a view to maintaining and expanding Seacare's regional presence as a healthcare services provider. At the same time, the SMH will also "serve as focal point for exploring organic initiatives as well as acquisitive ventures", Mr Leow reported.

Restructuring took place in Seacare MarinePlus Pte Ltd with the aim of serving seafarers more comprehensively. The restructured Seacare MarinePlus now has a Land Transfer Division, a Hotel Division and a Future Projects Division or what Mr Leow described as a one-stop service centre for the benefit of its patrons. This integrated service centre will offer a seamless combination of hotel, medical and land transfer services. The establishment of such centre is part and parcel of our extended welfare scheme for seafarers and their families.

In his report, Mr Leow stressed that the Seacare Group has undertaken activities which are "not exactly profit-making centres but which will definitely constitute a return of investment to our main shareholder, the SOS". One such activity is the Seacare Drop-in Centre for International Seafarers that was launched in the review period jointly by the SOS and Seacare to provide recreational and communication facilities for seafarers within the Pasir Panjang port area. Another activity is the Seacare Thrift Pte Ltd which manages the fund on behalf of close to 16,000 Seafarers' Provident Fund account holders in the review period.

"Thus it should be clear to all that our Seacare Group does not view a return of investment wholly in terms of dollars and cents," remarked Mr Leow.

That is the overall co-operative character of Seacare. The Co-operative was awarded a Plaque of Commendation by the NTUC on May Day 2008 for its significant contributions to the labour movement. Three years earlier, Seacare was presented with the Plaque of Commendation by the Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF) for its contributions to the co-operative movement. All these honours conferred on Seacare underline the multi-aspect nature of our organisation.

"Looking back on what has taken place in the review period, we know what we have to do in the years ahead. We will continue



***"Looking back on what has taken place in the review period, we know what we have to do in the years ahead. We will continue to consolidate our Seacare Group and seek new investment opportunities wherever we can in Singapore or the region or even beyond. We will also continue to not only entrench but also enlarge our role in servicing the members of our main shareholder, the SOS, and the NTUC, our individual shareholders and international seafarers."***

**Mr Leow Ching Chuan,  
Seacare Chairman**

to consolidate our Seacare Group and seek new investment opportunities wherever we can in Singapore or the region or even beyond. We will also continue to not only entrench but also enlarge our

role in servicing the members of our main shareholder, the SOS, and the NTUC, our individual shareholders and international seafarers," Mr Leow assured.



## SEACARE CHAIRMAN

# MR LEOW CHING CHUAN RE-ELECTED TO SNCF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman of Seacare Co-operative Ltd, Mr Leow Ching Chuan has been re-elected to the Executive Council of the Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF) for the term 2008 – 2011. The new Board of Trustees and Executive Council members were revealed to the affiliates of SNCF at its 10th Triennial General Assembly held on 24 September 2008 at the Hilton, Singapore.

Mr Leow has been in the Executive Committee since 1996. This is his fifth term serving as an SNCF Exco member. The 11-member team, headed by its new Chairman, Mr Chan Tee Seng will now work together to do more to further enhance the co-operative movement in Singapore and bring it to greater heights.

"The Singapore Co-operative movement is a dynamic one and I am honored to continue serving as a member of the Executive Council. We work very much as a family in the movement. We look out for each other's interests and think of ways to help each other – big or small – to fulfill our potential," said Mr Leow.

At the TGA, the outgoing Chairman of SNCF Exco, Mr Seah Kian Peng, who had to step down in compliance with SNCF's bylaws, having served for two consecutive terms, thanked the Exco members and welcomed the new members of the Exco family.



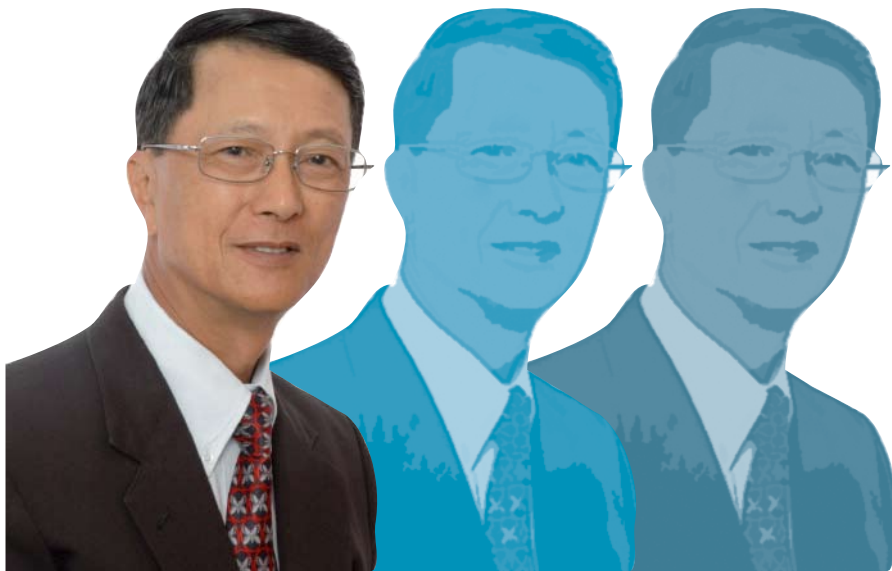
### SNCF BOARD OF TRUSTEES (2008/11)

CHAIRMAN	: Mr Othman Haron Eusofe
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN	: Mr John De Payva
MEMBERS	: Mr Seah Kian Peng Mr G Anthony Samy Mr Victor Pang Ms Chow Fong Leng

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (2008/11)

CHAIRMAN	: Mr Chan Tee Seng
1ST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN	: Mr Zee Yoong Kang
2ND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN	: Dr R Theyvendran
MEMBERS	: Ms Mary G Tan Chye Tin Ms Lim Sia Hoe Mr K Rajaram Mr Pun Shyh-Gang Mr Vasanthanathan s/o Chellappan Mr Leow Ching Chuan Mr Saraj Din Dr Tan Sun Teck





## SEACARE MARINEPLUS GETS NEW DIRECTOR

An addition to the growing Seacare MarinePlus family is Capt Chong Chee Eng. If the name rings a bell, that is just because Capt Chong is no stranger to the maritime community. The Deputy General Manager of SSC Ship Management Pte Ltd knows the ins and outs of the needs and demands in the industry.

Topics such as ferrying of crew, housing needs for seafarers and future needs of the maritime community are not new to Capt Chong. The former Chairman of the Singapore Maritime Employers Federation has come across many situations in which ship agents and owners may have to face with. It is therefore befitting for the company to have Capt Chong accept the director post that Seacare MarinePlus Pte Ltd has to offer.

Seacare MarinePlus is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Seacare Holdings Pte Ltd. Its forte in providing a one-stop centre for support services to maritime agencies and ship operators is building up fast, with its services such as the 24-hour land transfer services, receiving bigger response of late as word of mouth reaches to many ship owners who require an excellent service of transporting their crew members to and from their chosen locations.

The new Seacare MarinePlus Director who came on board on 16 September 2008 will bring in a fresh brand of perspectives and direction. Capt Chong, who has had 14 years of sea career, will lead the team to achieve its vision to be the premier one-stop centre for seafarers in Singapore, with affiliations in the region.

"The requirement for crewing will continue to increase in volume and frequency due to the quick turnaround time of the vessels. Owners and managers want to concentrate on the essential element of crew management like training, and will seek for companies to train their crew members. Many of these needs will eventually be outsourced. I believe there will be plenty of opportunities for Seacare MarinePlus to participate in," commented Capt Chong on the potential he sees in Seacare MarinePlus.

Capt Chong's years of experience within the maritime industry are invaluable to the company. His expert advice and leadership will certainly be beneficial to the team, propelling them further and bringing them to next level.

**Welcome to the team, Capt Chong.**



# PLAYING HOST TO THE CO-OPERATIVE LEAGUE OF THAILAND

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Seacare Co-operative Ltd opened its doors to the members of the Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT) when they were in Singapore on 21 August 2008.

The visit created a new understanding and appreciation of the co-operative movement in Singapore for the 47 Thai board members and senior management staff of CLT. They saw first hand the operational and business practices that are at work in Singapore Co-operatives.

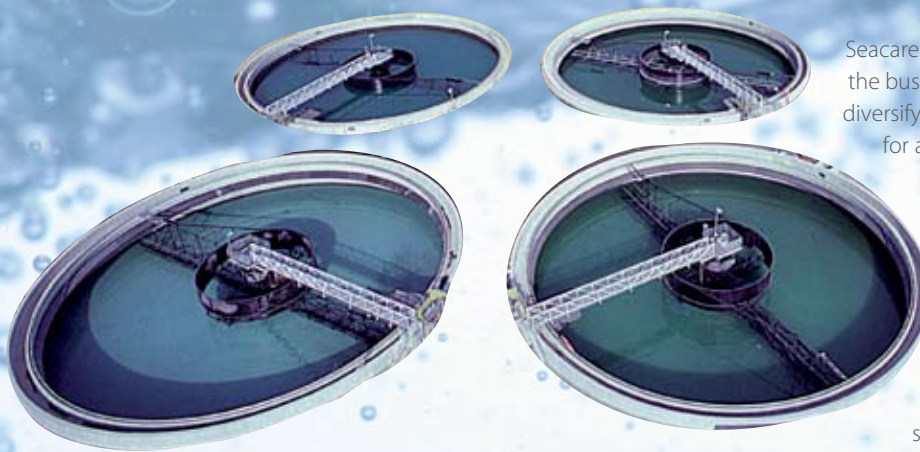
Seacare, being an affiliate of Singapore National Co-operative Federation, was glad to have the delegation over at its premises during their stay here. Club@52, located at the Seacare Building was the venue for their discussion. Seacare Chairman and Executive Council Member of SNCF Mr Leow Ching Chuan presented Seacare's range of businesses and services as well as its social aims and goals. A corporate video of Seacare summing up the operations, aims and objectives of the co-operative was also shared with the delegates.

CLT, which was established in 1968, is the leading national Non-Governmental Organisation representing over 5,000 primary co-operatives of all types with six million member households in six major types of co-operatives: agriculture, land settlement, fisheries, thrift and credit, consumer and service.

The Thai delegates' rewarding short stay in Singapore opened their eyes to practical pointers on how to enhance their co-operatives' operational and business efficiency. The exchange of ideas and contacts also benefited the Singapore hosts.



# SEACARE INVESTS IN WATER TREATMENT



Seacare has its eyes set on the right places. Already in the business of caring for the environment, Seacare is diversifying into an area which not only paves the way for a better environment but also have long term implications on the economy.

We're talking about Seacare's recent investment into two wastewater treatment projects in Inner Mongolia, with WaterTech Pte Ltd, an environmental engineering company specialising in providing integrated systems for water and wastewater treatment.

The investment which took place in August 2008, comprise of a 30-year BOOT (Build-Own-Operate-Transfer) project to treat wastewater/purification of up to 14,000 cubic m and 7,500 cu m per day in the Kezuozhongqi and Kulunqi Districts respectively.

The decision to invest in WaterTech by Seacare Foundation Pte Ltd is certainly not one to be taken lightly. As a Group, Seacare Foundation has always been looking for good projects which have long term prospects and provide a steady stream of revenue. WaterTech is one such venture.

In less than two years since WaterTech was incorporated in 2004, it was granted ISO 9001:2000 for quality management standards and 14001: 2004 for environmental management system in the areas of design, supply, installation, commission, testing and servicing of water treatment system.

WaterTech's expertise in recycling technologies especially in wastewater treatment puts it at an advantage over many other water companies that mainly handle pure water treatment. And since clean water is currently a worldwide investment, the potential for this market is enormous. With its capability to provide customized integrated project solution for wastewater treatment systems and together with its own formulated chemicals to treat potable water and wastewater at most cost-effective manner to meet its clients' needs, WaterTech has also attracted interests from investment partners such as SPRING SEEDS Capital Pte Ltd and Kota Capital Private Ltd to name a few.

Currently its business in providing engineering procurement construction projects has gone beyond the shores of Singapore to cover Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Qatar and China. It also successfully broke into the market in the Inner Mongolia region to embark on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) and Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) sewage treatment projects.



# ENT PROJECTS IN INNER MONGOLIA

WaterTech's capabilities to assume total process responsibility, feasibility studies, design engineering, fabrication, installation, and environmental start-up projects, under the leadership of Mr William Ng, its CEO and Mr Liew Ming Choy, Deputy CEO, are certainly good indicators as to its growth prospect.

So, after months of deliberation and assessment, it only made good business sense for Seacare to invest in WaterTech. This marks yet another milestone for Seacare as it forges forward to a better environment and better future.



*"As the business environment is highly dynamic and volatile, Seacare is ever conscious of the need to diversify its business particularly into areas which have*

*long term implications on the economy. Watertech is in the environmental area and we feel strongly that it is an excellent area to move into. In addition, we too are in the environmental and landscaping business and there should be areas where we can tap on Watertech's expertise and resources."*

Mr Leow Ching Chuan,  
Chairman, Seacare Foundation Pte Ltd



*"Basically, we are in the right business and have a good, competent team. We have done reasonably well in Singapore and it is time we look at expanding into*

*growing markets such as China where the potential is tremendous and where our skills and expertise are useful. Once we succeed in the two Inner Mongolia projects, it will certainly pave the way for more exciting and challenging things to come. I am confident we can make it."*

Mr Goh Yeow Tin,  
Chairman, Watertech Pte Ltd



*"With global warming and 'going green' issues, many environmental related opportunities are created for WaterTech Pte Ltd in both Build,*

*Operate and Transfer (BOT) Projects and Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Projects. Moreover, it is now mandatory for manufacturing plants with toxic wastewater discharge to have its own Wastewater Treatment Plant to ensure that their waste water are recycled, which also translate into greater opportunity for WaterTech not only in China but also in other less developed countries in Asia. Now with the coming in of new investors, Watertech is ready to face all these opportunities and are confident to develop inroads into the market not just in Environmental Engineering Industry but also in the renewable/green energy market."*

Mr William Ng,  
CEO, WaterTech Pte Ltd

# SEACARE LANDSCAPE ►►

## ◀◀ SCORES ANOTHER DEAL



*An example of a spot feature that possesses exotic rocks and trees surrounding the premise.* ►



◀ *A sample of a wall that has been done up with water features with a built green wall system.*

The sculptors and designers of landscape leave a lasting memory. The word of mouth can provide one of the most successful means to expand your business. This is the case for Seacare Landscape Pte Ltd, which recently clinches another contract – a private house at Merryn Road.

When it comes to the execution of landscape design and the works, Seacare Landscape is the expert. Working with a familiar team of architects who have partnered Seacare Landscape in a previous project, the company's role for the bungalow unit at Merryn Road is to ensure that its design and build aspect is met, as well as furnishing the area with wall-like water features.

Most importantly, the team caters to the unit owner's landscaping needs, by understanding the preferred look and feel. A warm theme with spot features that cover boulder rocks, exotic plants and trees to create emphasis on selected areas of the landscape will be applied to the unit. Located behind the expressway, the team also realises that sound buffering is crucial, so that the landscape design and build is both pleasant to the eyes as well as functional.

"Listening to our customer's needs is part and parcel of our job. Engineering the landscaping requires a team of thinkers and doers so that the final output is of the highest a presence. This, I believe, will give us and our clients a rewarding experience," Angullia, General Manager of Seacare Landscape.

design into the plan quality, creates said Mr Firos

In addition to that, the unit will have a new lease of life as the mechanical and electrical team from Seacare Landscape puts their magical expertise into play – featuring green wall systems to complement the water features that will be placed in the premise. Visual appeal matters to the team but this is done by not putting nature at stake.

The Merryn Road project will also involve Seacare Landscape's consultancy services through the resident arborist, who will assess the status of mature trees found within the purchased land and advice on ways to keep them from harm. The assessment is important as it will ensure that the team remains socially responsible, seeking advise on whether a tree is deem fit for removal during the construction stage.

Turn to the next page to find out more on the new addition to the team!





## SEEING PINK IN THE GREEN...

### TREE DOCTOR JOINS SEACARE LANDSCAPE

The last time Samudra heads down to Seacare Landscape's office, we found someone new. Tucked in his brand new workstation was the man behind the health of Seacare Landscape's pride and beauty. Samudra chats up with the Tree Doctor and finds out what is the exact prescription required for trees to remain in the pink of health.

Meet Mr Win Khai, the Tree Doctor who tends to the needs and well-being of plants and trees, ensuring that they are not infected or abused by the public or environment. His diagnosis will determine whether a tree can be felled or moved to another location with regards to future plans or projects that the company undertakes.

Born in Myanmar, Mr Win Khai has been working here in Singapore for more than a decade. His passion stems from his childhood days, growing up in nature and watching his father who is a forester work, all of which have had a major impact in his life. He started with a Bachelor in Agricultural Science from the Institute of Agriculture in Myanmar before he took up a Diploma in Supervisory Management from the PSB Academy. In 2007, he received the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certification. Mr Win Khai also manages the maintenance team at Seacare Landscape.

"The biggest challenge for an arborist is to give the proper diagnosis, to tell when a tree is sick. I have to look for symptoms and signs to determine the cause. Normally, a problem cannot be diagnosed by a single symptom. For example, wilting can be the result of drought, root problems or various pathogens such as virus, bacteria or fungus," said Mr Win Khai.



#### Trees Get Stressed Out Too

His tanned complexion is testament to the time he spends out on site, to uncover any hidden problems with the plants and trees. Physical clues such as hollow tree barks or different crown shapes are tell-tale signs that the tree is unwell.

"Sometimes, we need to get laboratory assistance to decide the cause of the problem. A sick tree is not only a result of pest and diseases but also a result of stress. The basic factors that help plant health include sufficient water, optimal temperature and light and a proper balance of minerals. Too much or too little of any of these elements can cause stress. In general, any condition that causes a decline in tree health can be called as stress," added the tree expert.

Seacare Landscape can now tap on his expertise for advice, giving back to nature, by taking care of their health. With Mr Win Khai onboard, Seacare Landscape is now poised to be a more dynamic and colourful team.

"As the Manager for the maintenance team, I plan to provide an excellent service to our clients. As an Arborist, together with the team, I plan to bring Seacare Landscape to the next level, clinching bigger projects to move us forward," said Mr Win Khai with a smile.





# SEACARE MEDICAL

## THE NAME THAT

### **The Seacare Maritime Medical Centre Team at Your Service**

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A Russian seafarer had complained about an intense pain in the abdomen. Twice he sought treatment in a hospital in Shanghai; twice he was given medication and was told all was well. Little did he know he was suffering from a life threatening health condition.

"When the Russian seafarer came to us for help, our doctor instantly knew that his condition was serious. A CT scan confirmed that he was suffering from cancer. We at Seacare Maritime Medical Centre in Shanghai were with him all the way and did whatever we could to help," recalled Ms Selena Sun, Operations Manager, SMMC in Shanghai.

The personal touch coupled with the efficient, quality medical care distinguished SMMC as a premium maritime healthcare provider.

"We synergise with reputable medical service providers in Asia for a reason – to offer the growing maritime industry timely and excellent medical attention," said Dr Chia Yih Woei, CEO, SMMC.

In Shanghai, SMMC chose to collaborate with Jin An District Central Hospital, a general hospital in Jin An District. With one phone call made to SMMC, seafarers who require medical attention in Shanghai can be assured of medical services of international standard; 24-hour services that are tailored made to meet their unique needs.



# AL - OPENS DOORS



Communication is made easy as SMMC staff are effectively bilingual. "We are able to dialogue with majority of the foreign seafarers who speak English. At the same time, we can communicate with the local medical staff in Shanghai who are Mandarin speaking," the Shanghai based Chinese national Ms Sun pointed out, highlighting another strength of SMMC.

Ms Sun was in Singapore in October to meet the team at SMMC as well as to pay a courtesy call to the management staff of shipping companies.

"Seacare is a trusted name; a name that opens doors. I believe the future is indeed bright," she added.

Should you require more information on the services provided at SMMC in Shanghai or need assistance with regards to healthcare issues when your ship visit the ports of Shanghai, please contact SMMC at: 65-6222 7728 or 65-6222 2961.

***"When the Russian seafarer came to us for help, our doctor instantly knew that his condition was serious. A CT scan confirmed that he was suffering from cancer. We at Seacare Maritime Medical Centre in Shanghai were with him all the way and did whatever we could to help."***

***Ms Selena Sun,  
Operation Manager, SMMC Shanghai***





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