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SOS 50th Anniversary!

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SOS50 - Many Stories, One SOS

The SOS story is about transformation and reinvention. It is about grit, being resilient and bold for one purpose...

Youtube.com:  
SOS & Seacare

SOS50 - Greetings from staff & Members

A simple wish to SOS as it approaches its 50th year serving seafarers and the maritime industry.



SCAN ME

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## SOS CELEBRATES THE GOLDEN JUBILEE

**R**egistered on 30 October 1971, the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS) has come a long way in serving seafarers since it was established half a century ago.

This year, SOS commemorates its golden anniversary by celebrating the many stories about the lives that were transformed by the good work of maritime union.

Encapsulating the milestone, a logo depicting multiple waves making up the number 50 was specially created.

The liquid elements show how SOS is related to the maritime scene. It is a trade union that upholds tripartite partnership to better benefit seafarers in the local maritime industry. It loyally serves both local and international seafarers, be it if they are members or not—to fight their battles with them and for them. Through thick and thin, the Union stands by the seafarers.

To that end, SOS possesses not just that unwavering love for the sea, but for the seafarers they serve as well. This explains the curvature and blend of the number '0' and wave to display the shape of a heart.

The colour blue represents the sea while red signifies our passion in doing what we do every day; why we do it and for whom. It denotes that the interests of the seafarers is at the centre of our existence.

The colours blue and red also reflect the indelible link between SOS and Seacare Co-operative in making a difference in the lives of the seafarers and their families and the shipping community.

The slogan, "Many Stories, One SOS", aptly sums up how each encounter with the Union; each adventure; each life transformed; culminates to One SOS. Every challenge we overcome; every collective agreement signed and every dispute settled converged to one thing: SOS has come a long way and we are here to stay.





“The SOS story is about transformation and reinvention. It is about grit, being resilient and bold for one purpose – to safeguard the welfare of seafarers.”

**Executive Advisor Leow Ching Chuan**



“Ever since SOS has the financial ability and stability to upskill our members, we have spared no efforts in providing training initiatives to enhance the skill sets of seamen to advance their career within and beyond the maritime industry.”

**President Kam Soon Huat**



“Our prompt response to the plight showed our ability and willingness to go the extra mile to help. This display of compassion and generosity showed that all these 50 years we have remained true to our calling and have stewarded our resources well enough to make a difference. This SOS spirit which was birthed in 1971 remains ever so strong.”

**General Secretary Daniel Tan**



To celebrate SOS's 50th Anniversary, local members give a glimpse of their seafaring tales and experiences—some, perhaps, never before told to anyone. These stories encapsulate the humorous, courageous and vulnerable sides of seafarers, who braved thunderstorms, piracies and even suicidal thoughts thousands of miles from home.



In the first of the series, Md B Kodrasono, an SOS Exco member and a retired Bosun. Heavily involved in the crewing and operations aspect of his job today, Brother Kodrasono shared his unending love for the sea and moments from seafaring days that remained close to his heart.



### **You loved the sea. What are some memorable moments?**

There were good and bad ones. When I'm ashore, I can enjoy with fellow seafarers at the seamen's club. This is where I can forget the unpleasant experience at sea, like rough weather or typhoon. Some were so bad that the ship pitched, rolled; it felt almost like a submarine—the water levels even rose up to the bridge.

On another voyage, I was sailing from Portugal to the United Kingdom on an LPG Tanker vessel, when the bow thruster caught fire. Together with our chief officer, we tried all methods to fight the fire while struggling to close all ventilation. We were exhausted when the fire was extinguished.

Be that as it may, nothing can compare to witnessing refugees at sea.

### **You met refugees?**

It was 1987. I was onboard a car carrier, sailing from Japan to Europe when we saw a boat full of refugees. There were children, babies, elderlies—all with unkempt appearance. Our captain slowed down the vessel and allowed the boat to come alongside. We opened the door and supplied them food, clothing and fuel for their boat. It was heart-rendering and pitiful. I really appreciated how our crew helped the refugees survive at sea.

### **Is seafaring that stressful?**

Take the COVID-19 pandemic for instance. Many crew cannot sign off after completing their contracts as there are restrictions from different international ports, lockdowns imposed by countries and limited flight availability. This can't be helped.

Shipping companies must also comply with different crew-change regulations at different ports. So the crew are unfortunately stuck onboard; they can't go ashore except for emergencies, say medical attention or VISA application. And whatever the circumstances, shipping companies must get multiple approvals from different agencies. This is only part of the story: we haven't factored in securing a transport to ferry crew in and out of the port.

### **Sounds trapped, aren't they?**

In my early days, a voyage from Europe to Korea took about 50 days. You can imagine how stressful and how much tension we experienced. But as a seafarer, we've to take all these in. We must control our minds to ensure everything goes smoothly.

## Happy 50th Anniversary Greetings

Waves and waves of messages of cheers and encouragement descended on SOS from four corners of the maritime world for the Union's golden 50th Anniversary. Congratulatory greetings poured from leaders of local and international trade union movements to owners of shipping companies; from heads of maritime associations to union members and more. Here are excerpts of some of the messages received. Check out [sos50.sosea.org.sg](https://sos50.sosea.org.sg) for the full version.



“It has been a year of trepidation with the pandemic impacting everyone worldwide. But one thing is certain in Singapore – that NTUC, unions and tripartite partners are doing all that we can to save the lives and livelihoods of our workers.

It may not be the easiest, but we should not forget to celebrate achievements too! I'm heartened that the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS) continues to fight for our seafaring sisters and brothers who were impacted by the pandemic and will continue to do so as the world starts to recover from the pandemic.

To me as the labour chief, it has and will continue to be about jobs, jobs and jobs – helping our workers keep their jobs; helping those who lost their jobs find jobs soonest; and skilling up those in jobs to take on higher-value roles. I'm confident that SOS will do your best to serve and take care of our seafaring workers. For the many years to come, NTUC will support you every step of the way”

**NG CHEE MENG, SECRETARY GENERAL, NTUC**

“This year has been extremely hard for seafarers worldwide, with hundreds of thousands stranded at sea for months on end or desperate for work on land. The SOS has lead the response to COVID, thinking not only about the seafarers on their ships, but all seafarers in every part of the world. The SOS has worked tirelessly to ensure that relief reaches all those in need and that the dignity of seafaring is respected.



The ITF thanks the SOS for its solidarity and dedication, and we will continue to fight alongside our brothers and sisters in Singapore for a safer and fairer future for seafarers everywhere.”

**STEPHEN COTTON, GENERAL SECRETARY, ITF**

“Since its founding in 1971, the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS) has been striving to improve the working and living conditions for seamen including running Seacare to facilitate crew change during the COVID-19 pandemic. This year marks the Golden Jubilee of SOS. It is a wonderful opportunity for the maritime industry to come together and celebrate the organisation’s remarkable achievements over the past half-century.



We, at the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, appreciate the strong tripartite working relationship with SOS and our various partners. Our heartiest congratulations to SOS on its 50th anniversary. We wish SOS every success in the decades ahead.”

**QUAH LEY HOON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE MPA**

“As an industry player and President of the Singapore Shipping Association (SSA), it is heartening to note that SOS has achieved much over the last 50 years to promote industrial and tripartite relations towards a harmonious workplace environment. From starting operations in a one-room office in the Trade Union House to your current own nine-storey SeaCare Building, SOS has also developed initiatives to increase the employability and improve the welfare seafarers over the years.

On behalf of SSA members and all seafarers globally, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the SOS for the unwavering support and partnership to establish the Singapore Shipping Tripartite Alliance Resilience (SG-STAR) Fund. This first global tripartite initiative is significant for seamen and the maritime industry as we all work together to overcome the Covid-19 crew change challenges and enhance the well-being of seamen around the world.”

**CAROLINE YANG, PRESIDENT, SSA**

“2020 was truly a year of uncertainty and challenges. COVID-19 disrupted the global economy in unprecedented ways, and tested our resilience and unity as a nation. Singapore has continued to facilitate crew change safely despite the pandemic. Together with SOS, unions and industry partners, we set up the Singapore Shipping Tripartite Alliance Resilience Fund (SG-STAR Fund) to strengthen crew change procedures at crew source countries.



As we move into 2021 with new hopes and resolutions, I hope SOS will step up its support for its members who have been under new stresses. The start of a new year is an opportune time to not only look back, but also think about how we can build back better, stronger, and more sustainably, to ensure that we are ahead of the curve as businesses around the world recover from the pandemic. I look forward to seeing what we, as an organisation, can accomplish in this new year, while celebrating this important milestone. Once again, congratulations SOS!”

**GRACE FU, MINISTER  
MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT (MSE)**



## "MARITIME SG HAS DONE WELL, BUT MUSTN'T REST ON ITS LAURELS"

**T**his very much summarises Mr Chee Hong Tat's, the Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Transport, opening speech at the Singapore Maritime Foundation's (SMF) New Year Conversations 2021 on 13 January, at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Although COVID-19 disrupted global—and local—supply chains and caused the economy to contract by 5.8 per cent, Maritime Singapore left somewhat unscathed. Among other things, she remained the world's top bunkering hub with a five per cent increase in year-on-year sales; and she retained its top rankings as an international shipping centre in the Xinhua-Baltic International Shipping Centre Development Index (ISCD). "These trends," Mr Chee emphasised, "reflect a vote of confidence in Singapore's stability, connectivity, and capabilities" as a reliable and safe harbour for the maritime community.

That said, Mr Chee reiterated how Maritime SG must seek improvement. Especially in three areas: Disruption, Digitalisation, and Decarbonisation. One, how to boost operation and production processes in the current pandemic climate. Two, how to complement the current workforce with technology to boost its effectiveness. Three, how to meet the International Maritime Organisation's (IMO) objective in halving international shipping's greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

With trust, transformation, and talent—which, in essence, is to continuously support and work with maritime stakeholders; to technologically enhance the maritime industry; to fully commit to sustainability initiatives with the \$40 million Maritime Green Fund, and to heavily invest in building a future-ready maritime workforce—Mr Chee, then, believes Singapore can stay as the cream of the crop in the international maritime landscape, and meet the goals of the three D's.



# 40,000 KM FOR OUR HEROES AT SEA

The adage "actions speak louder than words" holds true in the recently concluded Heroes at Sea event. As individuals from all over the world were seen working towards hitting a target distance of 40,000 km through various—walk, run, cycle, swim—forms of exercise to better seafarers' life.

Heroes at Sea, for the unacquainted, is a virtual challenge, from 1 November to 25 December last year, initiated to gather everyone and show support for seafarers who have been working tirelessly to keep the global supply chains going. Funds raised from the event would go towards improving seafarers' welfare with the help from the Mission to Seafarers Singapore, the Singapore Nautical Institute, and the World Maritime Heritage Society.

On 2 December, with approximately two weeks to spare, it was announced that the distance of 40,000 km was achieved. A moment to cherish as the maritime community, and beyond, came together and expressed solidarity and support of seafarers.

As one of the gold sponsors for the event, SOS President Kam Soon Huat said,

"SOS applauds 'Heroes at Sea' in paying tribute to seafarers, our unsung heroes, who soldier on to keep global trade moving despite these challenging times. We will continue to work closely with tripartite partners to safeguard the well-being of seafarers."

## A TRIBUTE TO SEAFARERS AROUND THE WORLD

Organiser: Singapore Nautical Institute

Beneficiary: Mission to Seafarers

Co-organiser: World Maritime Heritage Society

Lead & Facilitator: [Logo]

Scan & Register: [QR Code]

Walk, Jog, Cycle & Swim for Our

# HEROES at Sea

CIRCUMNAVIGATE THE GLOBE - 40,000KM

Facebook: HEROESATSEA2020 | Instagram: HEROESATSEA2020 | Twitter: @HEROESATSEA1

REGISTRATION @ [HTTPS://HEROESATSEA.WMCS.SG](https://HeroesAtSea.WMCS.SG) ENQUIRIES: [HEROESATSEA@WMCS.SG](mailto:HEROESATSEA@WMCS.SG)

# PRIORITISING VACCINATION TO FRONTLINE MARITIME WORKERS

**S**ingapore is one of the first countries to prioritise COVID-19 vaccinations for frontline maritime personnel.

The MPA announced on 18 January 2021, that under the Sea – Air Vaccination Exercise (SAVE) vaccination strategy, more than 10,000 frontline maritime workers would be vaccinated by end January. These included port workers, harbour pilots, cargo officers, marine surveyors and marine superintendents who are required to work onboard ships in Singapore's port.







In support of the SAVE initiative, SOS President Kam Soon Huat, with many other maritime stakeholders, received his vaccination at the Raffles City Convention Centre.

"SOS supports," Mr Kam commented, "this initiative to protect our seafarers who are at the frontlines of keeping the global supply chains moving. We strongly encourage them to step forward to get vaccinated, to safeguard their health and that of their family and friends."

With vaccination, frontline maritime personnel who have completed their full course of vaccination will be subjected to fewer testing requirements. Moving forward, those who are currently on the 7-day Rostered Routine Testing (RRT) will be tested every 14 days; those who are currently on the 14-day RRT will be tested once a month.

MPA CE Quah Ley Hoon said, "We rely on our frontline maritime personnel for the transportation of what we need everyday, including food, medical supplies, and consumer goods. We hope that the vaccination can give them peace of mind when they perform their work onboard ships. This will provide an additional layer of protection, and keep their family and the community safe. We strongly encourage them to come forward for early vaccination."

Singapore Shipping Association (SSA) President Caroline Yang welcomed the mass vaccination for maritime personnel who need to board vessels for their work. She said, "We urge companies to arrange and encourage staff in the identified maritime roles to be vaccinated, not only as protection for themselves but also as an assurance to their loved ones. SSA will continue to engage the authorities and maritime stakeholders for practical safe management measures so shipping operations in Singapore can continue amid new developments with the global pandemic."

# STARTING LUNAR NEW YEAR ON A GIVING NOTE

**T**he pandemic did not hamper the festive joy we share with the elderly and residents at welfare homes, a tradition we have continued since our founding years.

In February, SOS representatives, including President Kam Soon Huat, Vice-President Mohamad Abu Bakar, General Secretary Daniel Tan, Treasurer Abdul Rahim and Executive Secretary Chen Chuanyi delivered some 200 tins of cookies and cartons of tangerines to the elderlies residing at Ling Kwang Home for Senior Citizens, Jamiyah Home for the Aged (Darul Takrim), AWWA Community Home for Senior Citizens, and Sree Narayanan Mission Home for the Aged Sick.

▼ Staff at the homes appreciated our efforts and care for the residents.

## Day 1: Ling Kwang Home for Senior Citizens



## Day 1: Jamiyah Home for the Aged (Darul Takrim)





**Day 2: AWWA Community Home for Senior Citizens****Day 3: Sree Narayanan Mission Home for the Aged Sick**

# HONG BAO FOR RETIRED SEAMEN

To symbolically usher in the lunar new year of the Ox in 2021, SOS Membership and Services department has specially presented a set of gifts for all eligible local members and local retired members.





All members received a gift bag comprising a pair of persimmon designed tea canisters, and a set of commemorative Year of the Ox Festive Pack comprising a 24k gold-plated Festive Ox medallion and a Singapore \$2 banknote. About 300 retired members received it with an additional red packet.

This year, it is heartening that more than half of our members opted to receive their Lunar New Year red packet via i-banking, instead of cash, as part of our Union's push to go cashless (details on page 20).



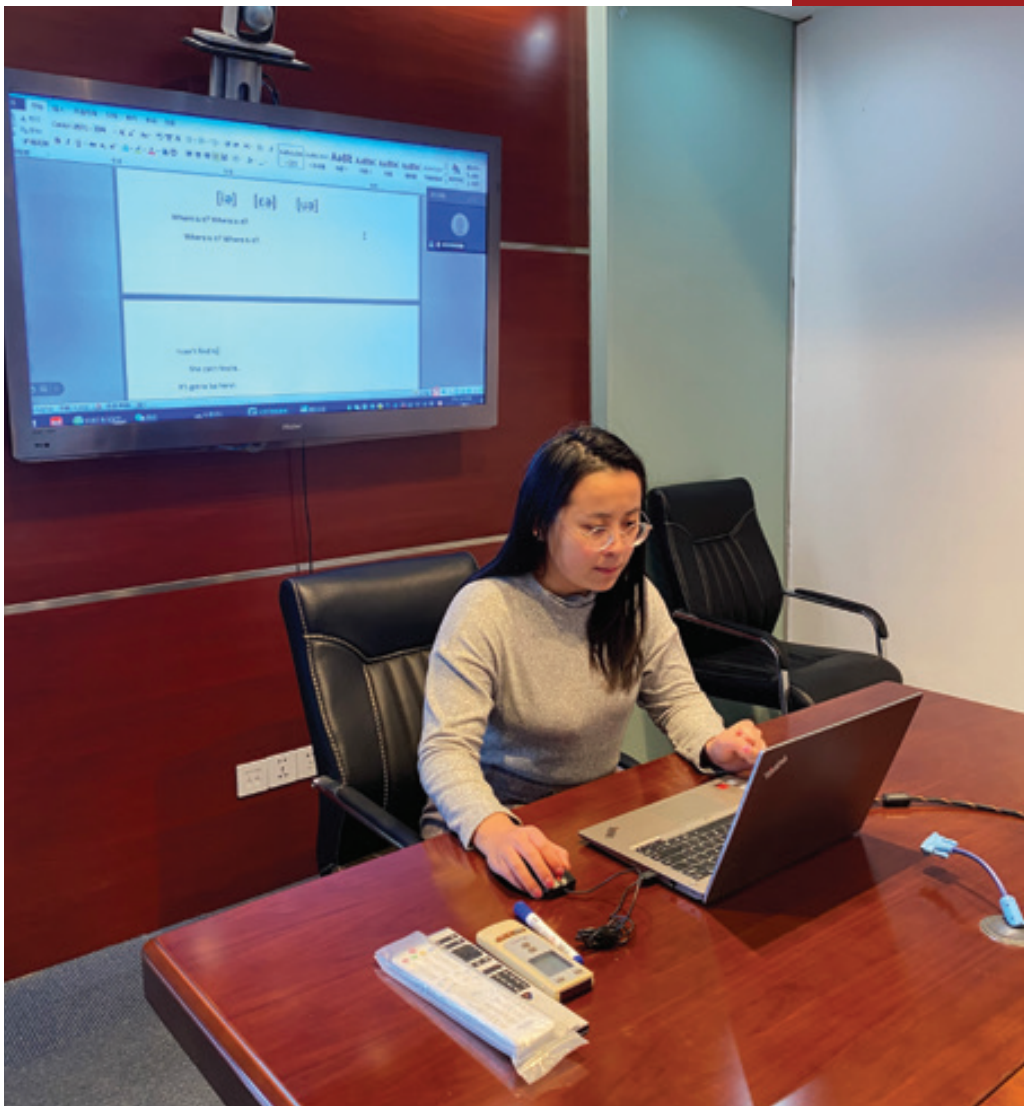
◀ One of our members, a retired seaman who had been away for more than a year, collecting his LNY gifts and long-membership award.



# NEW YEAR, NEW SQRT BATCHES

**F**ifty ratings kicked off 2021 with the Seacare Quality Rating Training (SQRT)—forming the 77th and 78th batch of the maritime training programme aimed at improving the language and work proficiency necessary for quality work on board.

Conducted by Singapore (Nantong) International Maritime Institute (SNIMI), both cohorts were taught online as SNIMI focuses on a digital learning environment amid the ongoing pandemic.



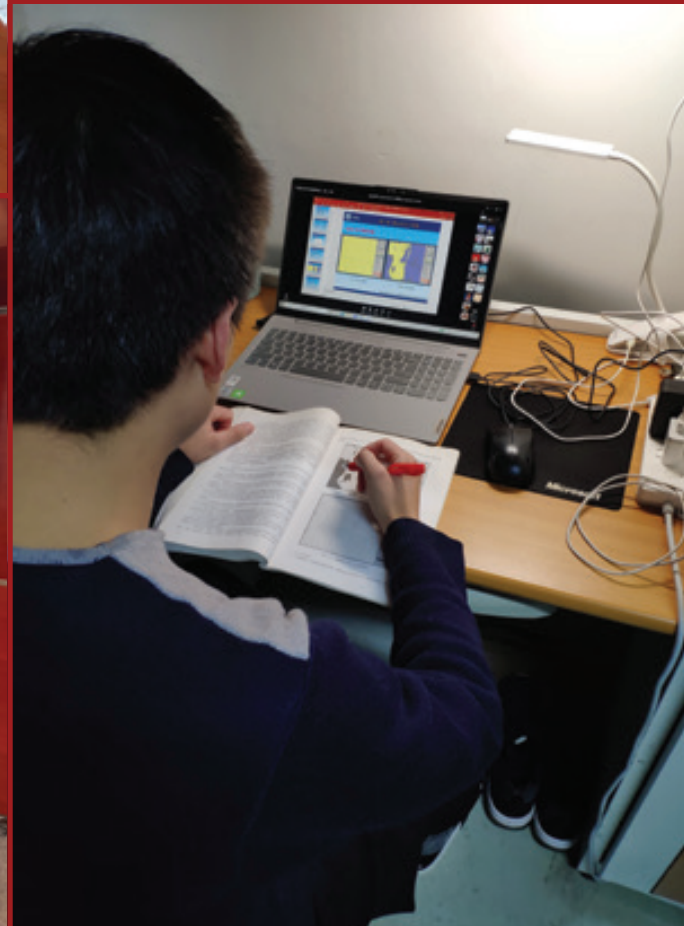




As with past online training, lessons were conducted by trainers on campus in Nantong, China. Trainees, meanwhile, logged in remotely from their respective locations. Some platforms used to ensure an effective and engaging learning experience were Tencent Conference and WeChat messenger.

Remote learning, though, proved to be a barrier for the majority of trainees. More than 75 per cent fared a below-average to poor in their English language proficiency assessment. By the end of the four-week training, however, the trainees improved to an above-average and good score.

The positive jump in their results left the trainees impressed with the efficacy of remote learning, whilst appreciating the dedication of SNIMI trainers in ensuring they complete SQRT courses with the highest possible score, however far they are from campus.





## MAXIMISE YOUR SMS MEDICAL BENEFITS

Local members are eligible for reimbursement benefit of up to S\$100 (nett) for eye examination, eye check-up, consultation, medication, treatment and/or related costs obtained from any Singapore licensed healthcare establishments such as eye centre, clinic or hospital.

Contact our SOS Membership Services for more information.



Benefits	Free Health Screening	Eye Care
Scope of benefit	Free health screening package 1. Medical Consultation and Complete Physical Examination 2. Biophysical Measurement 3. Office Tests 4. Imaging Studies 5. Lipid Profile 6. Liver Profile 7. Hepatitis Profile 8. Kidney Profile 9. Endocrine Profile 10. Bone & Joint Profile 11. 3 Cancer Markers 12. Veneral Profile 13. Urinalysis 14. Full Blood Count 15. Medical Review	Comprehensive eye examination 1. Eye Examination 2. Eye Check-Up 3. Consultation 4. Medication 5. Treatment 6. Related Costs (For Non-Cosmetic Purposes)
Entitlement	One health screening per member and *dependant per year from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.  * For single member, dependent refers to his mother or father. For married member, dependent refers to his legitimate spouse.	Eye examination reimbursement: up to \$100 (nett) per member per year from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.
Clinic	<b>Seacare Maritime Medical Centre Pte Ltd (SMMC)</b> 100 Tras Street #18-02/03 The Amara Corporate Tower Singapore 079027 Tel: (65)6222 7728 Fax: (65)6224 6387 Email: seacare@pacific.net.sg  Mondays to Saturdays from 9am to 12pm (closed on Sundays & Public Holidays)	<b>Any eye centre, clinic and/or hospital</b> For visits to New Optometry and Ocular Care Centre (NOOCC), pre-booking of appointment is required. Please contact (65)6471 1771 for more details.

For more information on SMS and appointment booking, please contact

SOS Membership Services  
 52 Chin Swee Road #05-00 Seacare Building  
 Singapore 169875  
 Tel: (65) 6379 5666 • Fax: (65) 6836 3976 • Email: sms@seacare.com.sg



# E-PAYMENT FOR SOS MEMBERSHIP FEES, BENEFITS AND CLAIMS

**S**OS is moving towards digitalisation and is now adopting e-payments for all membership fees, benefits and claims. Members can now transact digitally in a hassle-free and seamless manner. And it's secure too.

To pay, scan the **QR code** below using your own online banking app:

## SINGAPORE ORGANISATION OF SEAMEN



**SCAN TO PAY**

Under **“Bill Reference”**, please indicate **SUBS, Membership Number & Member’s NRIC No.** so that we can match it to your records in our Membership System.  
(Example: SUBS 07654 S1234567E)

Once paid, please **email a screen-capture (photo) of the transaction proof to [sosmembership@seacare.com.sg](mailto:sosmembership@seacare.com.sg)**

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SEACAREFocus

SEACAREFocus



## SEACARE ENVIRONMENTAL GROWS ITS CUSTOMER BASE IN SCHOOLS

**S**ecare Environmental Pte Ltd continues its excellent work in delivering quality professional cleaning and disinfecting services for a growing base of clients. The latest addition being the Middleton International School.

Seacare Environmental beginning 2021, will be working with the education institute to provide cleaning services for campus facilities such as hardcourts, laboratories and classrooms. The contract expands the company's clientele in the educational sector including the East Asia Institute of Management and PCF Sparkletots Preschools.

Located at Tampines, the Middleton International School is part of the EtonHouse International Education Group that is headquartered in Singapore with 120 schools spread across 12 countries.







# SNCF HAS A NEW CE IN UNIONIST ANG HIN KEE

**V**eteran unionist Ang Hin Kee was appointed Chief Executive of the Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF) on 1 November 2020, succeeding Ms Dolly Goh.

The former Member of Parliament in the Ang Mo Kio Group Representation Constituency will continue to serve as the Assistant Director-General of the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), and its Director of Operations and Mobilisation.

Mr Ang brings to SNCF more than 15 years' experience in working closely with the ground to ease employment and employability concerns.

“Co-operatives exist to benefit members and help to improve lives. COVID-19 underscores the social role of co-operatives in helping members tide over difficult times from holding prices of everyday essentials to providing special loans, monetary and other forms of donations. In sharing a common set of values and principles to enhance the cohesiveness of society, co-operatives have shown again and again the power of Singaporeans working together to ride out the fiercest storms.”

Mr Ang Hin Kee



SNCF has announced the appointment of Mr Tng Ah Yiam as its chairman on 8 Jan 2021. Mr Tng took over the position from the late Mr Kwek Kok Kwong.

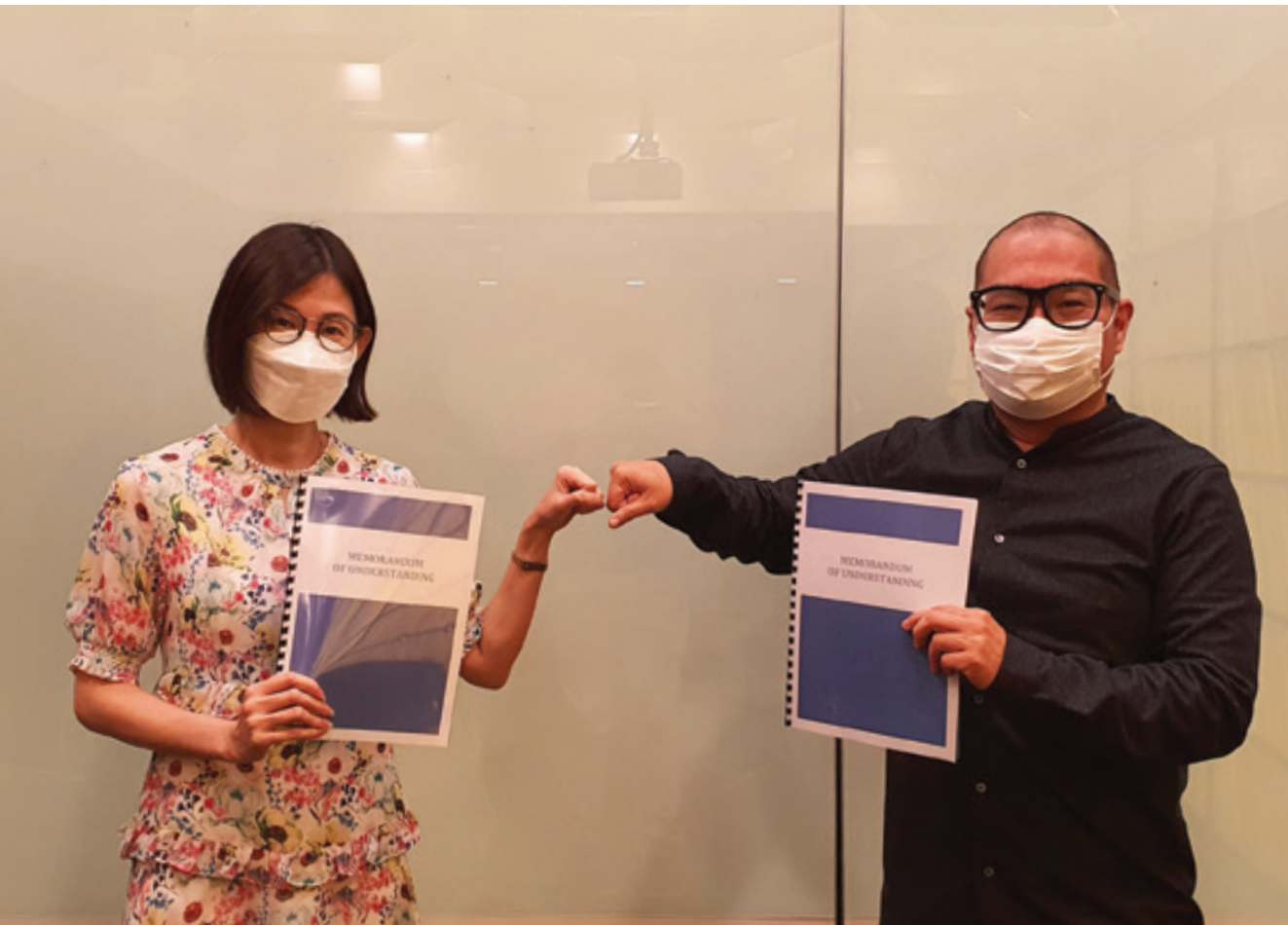
Mr Tng is also the Chief Procurement Officer at FairPrice Group, comprising NTUC FairPrice Co-operative, NTUC Foodfare Co-operative, Kopitiam and NTUC Link.



“Co-operatives have come a long way, helping to improve lives since its early days by tackling social issues and supporting members through difficult times. Our co-operative values such as mutual help and co-operation are even more relevant in this current climate. Besides working together with our co-operatives to create more value, opportunities and impact for our members and the broader community. I also look forward to continuing Kok Kwong’s work in advocating for collaboration and youth engagement to help businesses and upcoming generations embrace and embody the unique business model of co-operatives to do good and do well.”

Mr Tng Ah Yiam





## SEACARE AND ISTORIA INK MOU

**T**wo co-operatives got together to ink a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to leverage on each other's strengths and to boost business sustainability.

Seacare Co-operative and Istoria Co-operative Singapore Limited signed an agreement on 4 January 2021 to allow members to enjoy preferential rates for services provided by both co-operatives.

With the MOU, Istoria would provide a reduced rate for Seacare members enrolling or engaging in its programmes and services such as photography, videography and office administration support. In return, Istoria members would receive preferential rates for Seacare's hospitality, food & beverage and medical services.

The MOU was signed by Seacare Deputy Chairperson, Shena Foo and Istoria's Founder and Chairman Ronald Low.

This is Seacare's second MOU with a SNCF-affiliated co-operative; the first being with the Methodist Co-operative in 2017.



## LUNAR NEW YEAR BLESSING FOR JALAN KUKOH RESIDENTS

**S**eacare Co-operative Ltd and SOS traditionally hosts a Lunar New Year celebration luncheon for Jalan Kukoh residents at the Red Star restaurant every year. This large-scale event, jointly hosted by the Chip Eng Seng Group since 2017, was cancelled this year due to the pandemic. Regardless, Seacare, SOS, and Chip Eng Seng wanted the residents to know that they were not forgotten - and the message was delivered with help from members of the Jalan Kukoh Residents' Committee (JKRC).

With safe distancing measures enforced, the JKRC office, during the festive period, served as a collection point for 400 senior residents, who each received a LNY hamper sponsored by the three organisations, consisting of abalones, salmon floss, pineapple tarts and barbeque meat, to name a few. While the celebration was toned down compared to previous years, the residents were excited to receive these gifts and were heartened by Seacare's warm gestures.

“Just remember that it only takes a little more effort to show that we care, to spread the festive cheer and to bring smiles all around. It is definitely true that ‘it is more blessed to give than to receive’. Pandemic or not, life goes on and we are here to make sure, as best as we could, that life is made a tad easier for those who need to see better days and feel some love. Hence, I support that this initiative goes on, year after year, and with as much passion as it was in the past years.”

**Ms Kathryn Ang, Organising Chairperson**





Started 20 years ago as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative of SOS and Seacare to bless the community at Jalan Kukoh, the good work did not wane with the pandemic.

For the people who need help the most, SOS and Seacare's act of generosity and care lifted the spirit in the festive season.

We would like to wish all Jalan Kukoh residents good health and prosperity in the year of the Ox!

► Jalan Kukoh residents showing their gesture of appreciation to SOS and Seacare.



## ITE DIGITALISATION TALK

**T**he rapid proliferation of technology has resulted in a fundamental disruption in how businesses, the economy and society function. Digitalisation is a necessity and it must happen now not later for the organisation to survive and thrive amidst changes.

Twenty participants picked up this salient point during the course on Introduction to Digital Transformation conducted by Mr Greg W Chew, Deputy Director, Info-Comm Technology, ITE Central, and Mr Peter Leow, Lecturer, on 5 January 2021 at Maritime Hall.

Seacare Representative Ong Zhi Wei shares more.



### **What is this course all about?**

It is a simple introductory session to digital transformation, covering both the theory and application aspect of digitalisation by touching on basis terminology and concepts, general approaches to digitalisation and relevant case studies.

The objective was to create a common base understanding of digitalisation; and with the said understanding, to kickstart further conversation within and across different entities on the digitalisation journey.

### **What are some of the lessons learned?**

We learnt that digitisation is the foundation for digitalisation which is the enabling or adding of digital capabilities to help streamline business. We also learned that digitisation and digitalisation are equally important. Data is the building block.

### **What are some of the digital trends?**

Greg went through the 5 digital trends: Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Big Data & Analytics, Cloud Computing and Cyber Security. He showed how some of these trends are relevant to the various entities.

### **Is digitalisation solution-based?**

Digitalisation must be process-driven and not solution-based. Solutions should be tailored to the process, not vice versa. Which solution to adopt will depend on the cost-benefit analysis to be adopted by the entity and every entity would have different inputs for consideration.

### **What is a good starting point for digitalisation?**

It is identifying and addressing pain points which include and not limited to the following:

- i. removing duplication of work / bottleneck
- ii. bringing offline / manual function to online / (semi or ) fully automatic) function
- iii. Integration of data or function silos into a singular system

Also, aspiration points could be considered. Entities may want to consider looking into their end-to-end process in order to craft a digitalisation roadmap to match their aspiration.

### **Must we go big with digitalisation?**

Digitalisation does not need to start big. It can start with the existing tools that we possessed within our organisation. Peter Leow demonstrated to the class how to better utilise Microsoft teams through apps such as Power Automate (a no-code to low-code platform to automate repetitive business process); Power Apps (a no-code to low-code platform for building apps) and Power BI (interactive data visualisation and analytics tool for business intelligence).

# SEACARE MANPOWER RECRUITS

**M**ore than 90 job seekers turned up for the Workforce Singapore (WSG)'s Walk-In Interview that Seacare Manpower Services participated in.

Held at Tampines West Community Club Auditorium, the Seacare Manpower team went all out to recruit and interview job seekers to recommend to their clients. On 21 January 2021 from 10am-4pm, the team ensured that the stream of job seekers who showed up adhered to the safe distancing measures.





**ATTENTION**



## **ALL SOS Seafarers' Provident Fund (SPF) Members!**

With the termination of the SPF Scheme, all SOS SPF members can come forward to apply for withdrawal from their SPF account. Deadline for submission of Withdrawal Form and Supporting Documents are to reach SOS Singapore Office by:

**31 AUGUST 2021**

All applications received after the above date WILL NOT BE PROCESSED NOR ENTERTAINED.

Withdrawal Application Form is available at [www.ispf.org.sg](http://www.ispf.org.sg)  
You may also contact us at:

**Singapore**

**Seacare Thrift Pte Ltd**  
52 Chin Swee Road  
#08-00 Seacare Building  
Singapore 169875  
Tel: +65 6379 5666  
Fax: +65 6836 3976  
Email: [thrift@seacare.com.sg](mailto:thrift@seacare.com.sg)

**Philippines**

**LSA Consultancy and  
Management Services, Inc.**  
Unit 515 5th floor, S&L Building 1  
1500 Roxas Boulevard  
Ermita, Manila 1000, Philippines  
Tel: +63 2 521 6839  
Fax: +63 2 521 7170  
Email: [philis@seacare.com.sg](mailto:philis@seacare.com.sg)

**China**

**Singhai Marine Services  
(Shanghai) Co. Ltd**  
Building 4, 600 Min Sheng Road  
Pudong District,  
Shanghai, China 200135  
Email: [liuliang@singhai.com](mailto:liuliang@singhai.com)

**Indonesia**

**c/o Kesatuan Pelaut Indonesia (KPI)**  
Jalan Cikini Raya No. 58 AA/BB  
Jakarta Pusat 10330  
Tel: +62 21 314 1495  
Fax: +62 21 314 1491  
Email: [ppkpi@indosat.net.id](mailto:ppkpi@indosat.net.id)

**China**

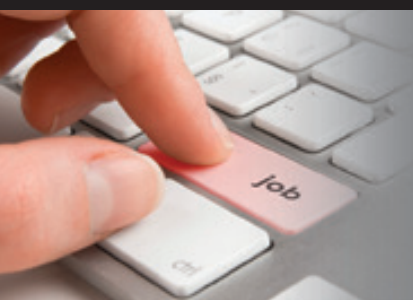
**Singhai Marine Services  
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Wuhan, China 430000  
Tel: +86 27 59902035  
Fax: +86 27 59902036  
Email: [liuliang@singhai.com](mailto:liuliang@singhai.com)



**SPREAD THIS MESSAGE TO ALL YOUR SEAFARING  
FRIENDS WHO HAVE SAILED ON SOS CBA VESSELS\***

**\*NOTE: SPF IS NOT APPLICABLE FOR SAILING PERIOD AFTER 30 JUNE 2012**





# Looking for a **Job?**

## Job Vacancies

- Teacher Aide/Assistant
- Receptionist cum Admin Assistant
- Admin Assistant
- Admin Executive
- Administration Manager
- Accounts Clerk
- AV/IT Technical Assistant
- ICT Executive
- Librarian/Library Assistant
- Science Laboratory Assistant
- Operations Manager
- Office Attendant
- Home Economics Attendant
- Laboratory Attendant
- Others...*



**Call: 6379 5632**

**Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm**  
**Saturday 9.00am – 12.30pm**



Email resume to:  
**placement@seacaremanpower.com**

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### **Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd**

EA Lic No: 95C4455

52 Chin Swee Road  
#06-00 Seacare Building  
Singapore 169875

.....  
Website: [www.seacaremanpower.com](http://www.seacaremanpower.com)  
Facebook.com/SeacareManpower

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**A Contractor**  
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- Its clientele includes:
  - Ministry of Education (MOE)
  - Ministry of Manpower (MOM)
  - Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)
  - Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI)
  - Prime Minister's Office (PMO)
  - Singapore Polytechnic

