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ISSUE
N° 02
2022

May Day Rally: Tripartism an anchoring force for Singapore

**Able Seafarers
minimum wage up
4 per cent in new
3-year deal**

A quarterly publication of the Singapore Organisation of Seamen and Seacare Co-operative Limited

inside:

**SEACARE
FOCUS**

SNCF lauds women
co-operators for
contributing to community

SMMC on using
telemedicine to
assess seafarers



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Email: sosea@seacare.com.sg





With their brightest smiles, volunteers transported jars of cookies and tarts and boxes of freshly-baked cakes to the Darul Ihsan Orphanage,

Jamiyah Home for the Aged, AWWA Community Home for Senior Citizens, and Ramakrishna Mission Boys' Home.

Staff from the homes welcomed the volunteers and applauded SOS for sharing the festive warmth with the residents, who could not personally thank the volunteers due to Covid measures.

The volunteers spoke with the staff to learn how to further their assistance; they also took photos and relayed their well-wishes and greetings to the residents.

A joint effort of SOS and the NTUC U Care Grant, the gifting of the Hari Raya goodies initiative had benefitted some 460 staff and residents from the homes.

CELEBRATING HARI RAYA WITH WELFARE HOME RESIDENTS

SOS VOLUNTEERS LOADED UP BOXES OF HARI RAYA GOODIES in their cars on Apr 28 as they set off to celebrate the end of the Ramadhan fasting month with residents from four welfare homes.

Happy home residents showing their appreciation for our kind thoughts and yummy festive goodies





BOOSTING MEMBERS' DIGITAL LITERACY AND ACCESS

SOS MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN TWO SMARTPHONE TRAINING

workshops on Apr 23 and May 28 organised by the union to boost their digital literacy and access.

The workshops taught members to navigate Android smartphones, including adding contacts, connecting to Wifi and organising home screens.

Trainers also taught members to use Zoom for video-conferencing, while highlighting different aspects of cyber security, such as phishing and malware.

In its third run, the workshop helped our



senior members embrace digitalisation as citizens harness technology to stay ahead as a global city. It also opened up new avenues of communications for members.





Veteran members honoured in SOS first social event since pandemic

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Fist-bumping and patting long-lost friends, SOS members arrived all smiles and thrilled at the Long Membership Token Presentation & Day of the Seafarer Celebration on Jun 10, a celebration held at Furama City Centre hotel this year.

THESE VETERAN MEMBERS WERE AMONG THE 64 RECIPIENTS

honoured for their contributions to SOS and the Singapore labour movement, with their membership milestones spanning from 5 to 50 years.

In his opening address, SOS President Kam Soon Huat paid tribute to the members and thanked



them for walking alongside the union all these years. Honouring active seafaring members, brother Kam also noted that SOS is mindful of their ongoing hardship amid the Covid restrictions.





The evening gala was graced by MP for Nee Soon GRC and SOS Advisor Carrie Tan, who praised seafarers for their service to the maritime industry, likening them to 'lifelines' for global supply chain disruptions.

Sister Carrie said she looked forward to joining members and strengthening their bonds in upcoming activities,

which will help her better assist them in future challenges.

This year's celebration saw 11 member-representatives receiving the tokens on stage from brother Kam and sister Carrie.

Accompanied by their spouses, members

were captivated by visually-arresting numbers and amusing stage games. Many also received thunderous applause for their spontaneity and charm on stage, making the celebration a memorable first social event by SOS in more than two years. **S**



Members having a blast at our pre-event activities and stage games in a memorable first social event by SOS in more than two years





Fruitful sharing with SOS Advisor Carrie Tan

SOS members enjoyed an engaging exchange with Advisor Carrie Tan, who shared various government schemes announced in Budget 2022, in a get-together session at Club@52 on June 11.

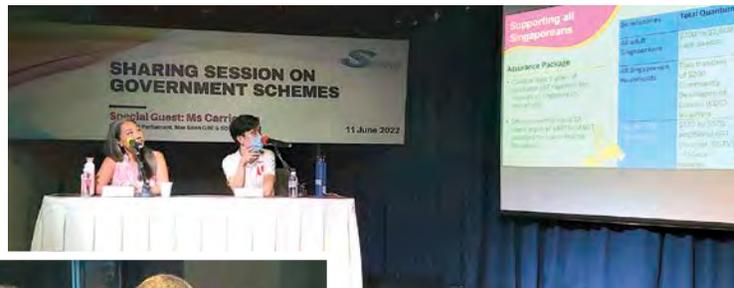
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SISTER CARRIE, ACCOMPANIED BY NTUC

IRO Choo Yan Min from the Supply Chain Employees Union (SCEU), explained the principles, considerations and challenges of Budget 2022, aimed at charting Singapore's post-pandemic growth towards a fairer, greener and more inclusive society.

The sharing session, attended by 50 members, touched on financial support schemes for Singaporeans such as CDC vouchers, Assurance Package and Enhanced Permanent GST Voucher (GSTV) Scheme to support





lower to middle-income households. The discussion also provided members with directions and avenues to seek further financial assistance.

Sister Carrie, also a Member of Parliament of Nee Soon GRC, had a lively discussion with members about Singapore's economic outlook amid global competition and disruption from digitalisation. She also answered members'

Members enthusiastically asking questions about different government schemes and benefits shared by Advisor Carrie Tan



concerns about the rising cost of living due to supply chain disruptions, global energy markets and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

This session was a constructive platform to help members strengthen their understanding of national challenges, ranging from bread-and-butter issues to national sustainability priorities. **S**





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CONGRATULATIONS TO SISTER HALIMAHTUL

SOS CONGRATULATES SISTER HALIMAHTUL SAA'DIAH BTE MOHAMED, manager of SOS Membership & Welfare Services,

on her 10th year in the maritime labour movement, serving seafarers and members with the same passion when she joined SOS in 2011.



Known for being responsible, dependable and a great team player, Sister Halimahtul also showed her creative side, planning alternative events and activities for members to bond and stay connected despite the pandemic.

SOS is proud to present Sister Halimahtul with the 10-year Long Service Award. Congratulations!

TRAINING

Completing SQRT 90 & 91

FIFTY TRAINEES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED Seacare Quality Rating Training (SQRT) 90 and 91 held in Nantong, China, from May 23 to Jun 17.

The trainees came from different parts of China, some from as far up North, as Heilongjiang and Hebei provinces.

The 4-week SQRT prepared them to speak and write practical Maritime English to facilitate work and communication as future crew on board.

The trainees also learned about the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) as part of their training syllabus. [S](#)



Photo: SOS file photo



World's oceans most acidic in 26,000 years: Climate report

Ocean heat and global sea level also set record with extreme turmoil caused by climate change.

THE WORLD'S OCEANS WERE AT THEIR WARMEST and most acidic last year, further affecting the economy and displacement, reported the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in May.

WMO's State of the Global Climate 2021 reported that ocean acidification, caused by the absorption of increased atmospheric CO₂ into the ocean, harms not only marine and coastal ecosystems but also food security and livelihood.

As the pH of the ocean decreases, its capacity to absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere also declines, the study warned. The annual study also reported that most oceans faced at least one 'strong' marine heatwave last year.

"It is just a matter of time before we see another warmest year on record," said WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas.

Melting ice sheets are concurrently pushing global sea levels to new heights, threatening hundreds of millions of coastal dwellers, the study reported.

According to the report, countries with the highest number of displaced dwellers include China (1.4 million), the Philippines (386,000) and Vietnam (664,000).

"Some glaciers have reached the point of no return and this will have long-term repercussions in a world in which more than 2 billion people already experience water stress," said Taalas. [s](#)



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May Day Rally: Tripartism an anchoring force for Singapore, PM Lee

Worker-centric firms will do well in the future labour market

TRIPARTISM MUST ALWAYS BE A STABILISING and anchoring force for Singapore, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said in his May Day Rally speech on May 1.

PM Lee praised the Labour Movement for working hand-in-hand with tripartite partners to strengthen unity and cohesion and to improve the productivity of businesses and workers.

“We have been pushing hard – digitalisation, automation, upskilling and training – every May Day we talk about

it for years now. But I am glad we did that, because when the pandemic forced the pace, our businesses and workers were not caught by surprise,” he said.

Addressing unionists at Downtown East and virtually at the hybrid May Day Rally, Mr Lee said Covid-19 has shifted work norms.

“Companies with worker-centric practices will excel in the future labour market...Telecommuting has become common, workers are putting more

weight on flexibility and autonomy,” he highlighted.

PM Lee urged more firms to strengthen their partnership with the Labour Movement and encourage more workers to join the movement, explaining that “in Singapore, unions are good for business... Businesses are good to unions too.”

He shared how firms worked with unions to transform businesses by investing in technology to redesign jobs, rebranding the industry to attract workers, and creating flexible work arrangements to boost retention.

“This happens in very few countries, only in Singapore – and only thanks to NTUC. This is tripartism in practice – a huge competitive advantage for Singapore,” he said.

Tackling post-Covid challenges

At the rally, NTUC Secretary-General Ng Chee Meng shared that as employment numbers rebounded in a post-Covid recovery, NTUC is working with tripartite partners to tackle new challenges.

These challenges include transforming businesses and creating new opportunities amid geostrategic uncertainties and economic headwinds and the longer-term issue of an ageing demographic workforce.

Brother Ng said tripartite collaborations are underway to expand the Progressive Wage Model to more sectors, which will benefit some 250,000 lower-wage workers.

Works are also in the pipeline to redesign jobs and create flexible work arrangement options for women, who constitute half the local workforce.

He said NTUC is also stepping up efforts to engage and cover gig workers, PMEs and youth, especially those below 25.

“In these uncertain times ahead, there will be many new challenges. But through it all, in the Labour Movement, reminds ourselves to always anchor firmly to advance the interests of workers and create a better life for them.” 



SOS members attending the NTUC May Day Rally at D'Marquee, Downtown East and virtually on May 1



Study shares ways to close work and skills gaps in transport sectors

The ITF, OTCi and SUSS on May 26 presented their key findings in a final report addressing employment challenges and skills deficits in transport and transport-related (TTR) sectors at a stakeholders' forum.

HR PROFESSIONALS AND UNION LEADERS FROM TTR SECTORS shared their experiences in transformational work and how they collaborated with their respective unions to upskill and reskill the workforce. The forum formed part of a series of workshops conducted in Singapore between January and March 2022.

The forum highlighted areas to address, such as key challenges of workers, their resistance to training and the unions' role in helping them remain employable.

A study of 13 Asia-Pacific economies identified seafarers to have a higher level of basic skills, which could be attributed to stringent requirements by the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW). In contrast, workers in bus, road, inland



water and port, and dockers sectors are observed to be less motivated to undertake training to stay competitive.

The study highlighted the important role of union leaders in influencing job perspectives, workplace safety, and attracting women and youth into TTR sectors. It identified five broad areas unions could address to narrow employment and skills gaps:



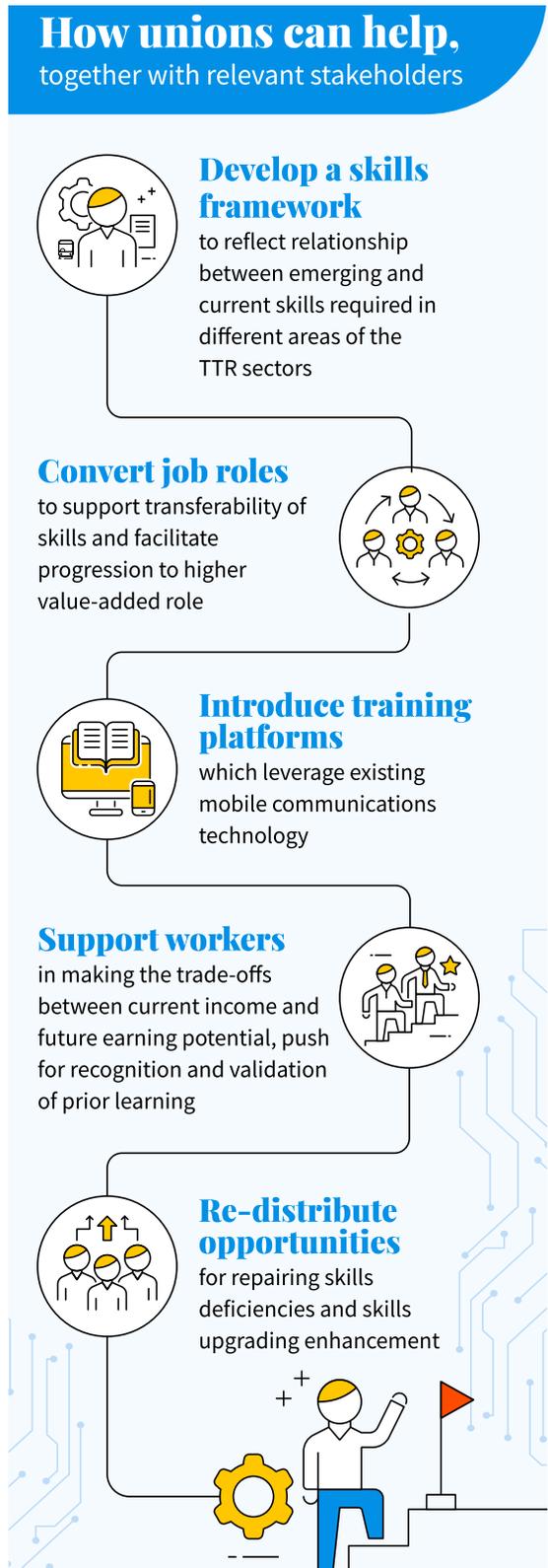
- **Engagement with employers and policymakers;**
- **Keeping up with changing skills requirements and taking advantage of training opportunities;**
- **Managing changes brought on by the introduction of new technology**
- **Tapping on the potential of young workers**
- **Improving opportunities and work arrangements for women workers**

Commissioned by the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) following an agreement at the 44th ITF Congress in Singapore in 2018, the stakeholders' forum concluded the study aimed at understanding the future of work across Asia.

"I gained a better appreciation of union leaders' role in creating diversity at the workplace and acting as mobilisers to promote lifelong learning and enhance employability amongst the workforce. To support their workers in areas identified in this study, union leaders must first acquire the relevant skills through training – take the first leap so that we could lead our members along," said SOS IRO Eugene Guo, a participant in the forum. 

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I gained a better appreciation of union leaders' role in creating diversity at the workplace and acting as mobilisers to promote lifelong learning and enhance employability amongst the workforce.

Eugene Guo
SOS IRO





Addressing crew's concerns on MV Yangtze Fortune

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SOS IRO ALAN KOR BOARDED

livestock carrier MV Yangtze Fortune on anchorage, on Apr 26, following concerns received by the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) on provision shortages and the non-payment of overtime wages.

In verifying the complaints, Brother Alan and his SMOU counterpart spoke with the captain, reviewed the wage agreement of the 33-strong crew and found no discrepancy in their records.

Both also thoroughly inspected the stores and were satisfied that food

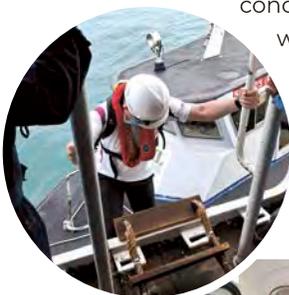
provisions and drinking water were adequate and fresh. Brother Alan took the opportunity to connect with the Filipino crew and address their concerns. He also provided them with information and contact

details of avenues to seek further assistance or clarifications.

“With the ease of Covid restrictions, we can once again visit vessels and interact face-to-face with seafarers. We hope

the pandemic will ease further so we can visit seafarers of different nationalities on board and address their

concerns real time, just like our pre-covid days”, said Alan. **S**



Day of the Seafarers 2022



The IMO Day of the Seafarers 2022 campaign theme ‘Your voyage - then and now, share your journey’ look at seafarer voyages, what it includes and how has it evolved over time and what remains at the heart of seafarers’ reality. The campaign gives

seafarers a chance to share what resonates with them currently, whether it’s the crew change crisis being unresolved or the future of technology.

Scan here for message by IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim



Celebrating International Day for Women in Maritime

Travelling the world on a mission to facilitate maritime trade, SOS member **Kimberly Amor Rosales** views seafaring as demanding yet exciting – an industry dominated by males but also honours women and their contributions to global supply chains.

SHARING WITH SOS OFFICER Kelly Loh her seafaring experience, Kimberly said she cherishes the opportunity to work onboard and is heartened by industry measures to attract, promote and retain women seafarers and other under-represented groups.

Kimberly also appreciates the guidance from her male colleagues. “It’s labour-intensive, but my colleagues are always helpful and accommodating,” said the 27-year-old Ordinary Seafarer, who has two international voyages under her belt.

On the opportunity to visit different countries as part of her job, the Filipino vividly recalled the breathtaking landscapes



SOS member Kimberly Amor Rosales (middle) views seafaring as demanding yet exciting



of New Zealand and her relaxing grocery shopping trips on her shore leaves.

Kimberly advised women who want to join seafaring: “Don’t be afraid to ask for help. Do your work diligently. Always pray to God.”

Reaching out to Kimberly and members on board container vessel Rio Blanco formed part of SOS’s regular ship visits to connect with seafarers. It also formed part of our annual International Day for Women in Maritime celebration on May 18.

According to IMO, women seafarers make up 2 per cent of the world’s 1.8 million seafarers, though most work in the cruise sector. Industry statistics also saw female STCW-certified seafarers double to some 24,000 worldwide since 2016. **S**



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Able Seafarers minimum wage up 4 per cent in new 3-year deal

Global shipowner and seafarers' groups have agreed to raise the yearly minimum wage of Able Seafarers (formally known as Able Seamen) in a new three-year 'safety net' for seafarers starting Jan 1, 2023.

THE AGREEMENT CAME AFTER THE UNITED NATION'S International Labour Organization (ILO) convened negotiations between shipowners and global seafarers' unions in May, coordinated by the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF).

The wage hike recognised the

economic well-being of seafarers, including their sacrifices and contributions to the maritime industry, having endured border restrictions, contract extensions and prolonged periods away from home during the pandemic.

In an earlier negotiation, the minimum wage was set at US\$648 beginning Jul 1, 2022.

Today's agreement recognises the huge sacrifices and professionalism of the men and women working at sea and is a testament to the collective milestones the social partnership between seafarers and shipowners have historically achieved, especially over the past few years.

Mark Dickinson

General Secretary of Nautilus International

Under the new pact, both groups agreed to structure a new 3-year deal through annual increments, starting Jan 1, 2023, leading to almost a 4 per cent wage rise to US\$673 by 2025.

Breakdown of Able Seafarers' wage:

- **US\$658 as of Jan 1, 2023**
- **US\$666 as of Jan 1, 2024**
- **US\$673 as of Jan 1, 2025**

Representing the seafarers' group, Nautilus International's general secretary, Mark Dickinson said:

"Today's agreement recognises the huge sacrifices and professionalism of

the men and women working at sea and is a testament to the collective milestones the social partnership between seafarers and shipowners have historically achieved, especially over the past few years.

"We look forward to working together alongside our social partners to safeguard financial stability for the world's seafarers."

Maritime transport is the only sector with a globally recognised minimum wage for seafarers. The next ILO Minimum Wage is scheduled for review in 2025. 

Breakdown of Able Seafarers' wage



US\$658
as of Jan 1, 2023



US\$666
as of Jan 1, 2024

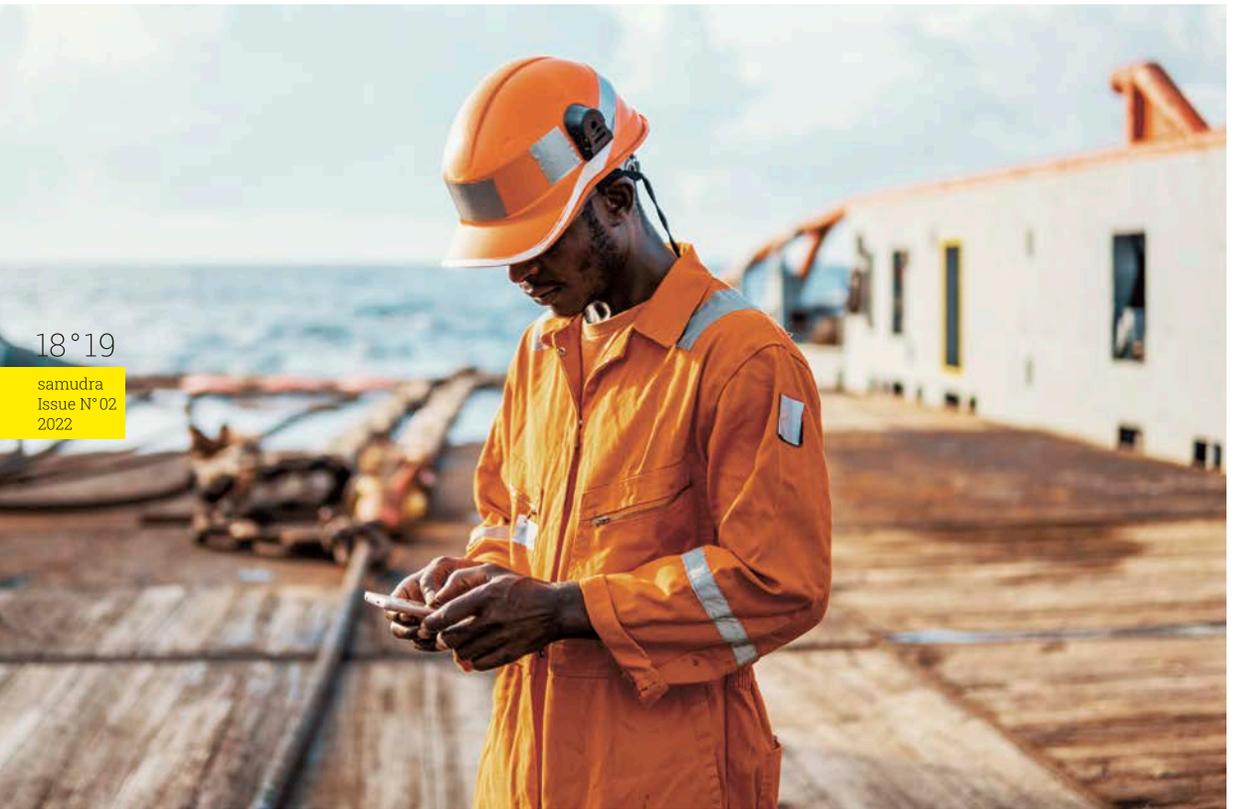


US\$673
as of Jan 1, 2025



Seafarers win right to mandatory internet access

The latest in a series of efforts to improve seafarers' working and living conditions, the seafarers' groups have won the right to mandatory social connectivity for crew, including internet access, in updates to the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC).



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THE COMMITMENT TO BOOST SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY for seafarers is among several changes following discussions at the 4th Special Tripartite Committee (STC) meeting in May.

These changes include access to free drinking water and quality food; and providing proper fitting personal protective equipment (PPE) for seafarers, including women.

“We’ve learned a lot during the Covid

period and that has been driving us to improve the MLC,” said Mark Dickinson, vice-chair of the International Transport Workers’ Federation’s (ITF) Seafarers’ Section and spokesperson for the Seafarers Group.

“Working for long periods at sea can be isolating,” Dickinson said, “And a lack of contact with the outside world can have profound implications for seafarers’ well-being.

“Being able to keep in touch with family and friends isn’t just a nice-to-have, it’s a basic human right. That’s why we fought so hard for seafarers to be given internet access and to have a mandatory provision in the MLC.”

Being able to keep in touch with family and friends isn’t just a nice-to-have, it’s a basic human right.

Mark Dickinson

Vice-chair of the (ITF) Seafarers’ Section and spokesperson for the Seafarers Group

Internet onboard maybe be chargeable

Unions, however, are unhappy that shipowners and government groups may charge seafarers for internet access or limit its use even if ships are equipped with internet infrastructure.

The seafarers’ group, including SOS, lobbied for pay-to-use internet to remain an exception; and reasonably priced, if imposed. The group also urged governments to ramp up internet access in ports and associated anchorages without cost to seafarers.

ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton called on the industry to continue tackling challenges to make shipping a decent, safe and career for seafarers, especially for attracting women into the industry.

“Through Covid, ITF and ICS worked so well together, and with other shipping partners such as IMEC, so it would be an incredible shame if we didn’t continue to work together in that spirit. Decent work for seafarers must be at the heart of this.” 

CHANGES TO THE MLC INCLUDE:



- Provision of adequate information to seafarers on how to make claims for incurred monetary loss due to failed placement



- Mandatory internet access onboard



- Prompt disembarkation of seafarers in need of immediate medical care, and to facilitate the repatriation of the body or ashes of a deceased seafarer



- Reporting and collection of statistics relating to fatalities onboard



- Facilitation of prompt repatriation of seafarers



- Provision of free drinking water and quality food onboard



- Provision of appropriately sized PPE



- Evidence of financial security

Scam alert

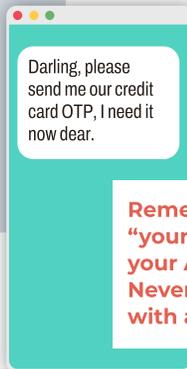
What is scam? A scam is designed to trick you into giving away your money, personal details or data by offering an attractive deal or false information.



Can I have your address please? We need it to open a new account with the company...

Do not disclose personal information and bank or credit card details such as CVV (Card Verification Value) over the phone.

Be wary of strangers you befriend online. Never reveal too much information or send money to strangers.



Remember: "your OTP is like your ATM pin". Never share it with anyone

Good deals might be too good to be true.

Fake reviews are common. Use legitimate shopping platforms that release payment to sellers only when you receive your items.



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Look out for calls that come with the "+" prefix – indicating overseas calls. Beware! This call could come from anywhere. Anyone based overseas can spoof calls to look like local calling numbers.



Beware of Honey Traps
An attractive person who shares the same mutual friend sends you a friend request.
Do not reveal too much personal details and never transfer money to people you do not know well. Especially if you have never met them in person.



Always check the email address of the sender

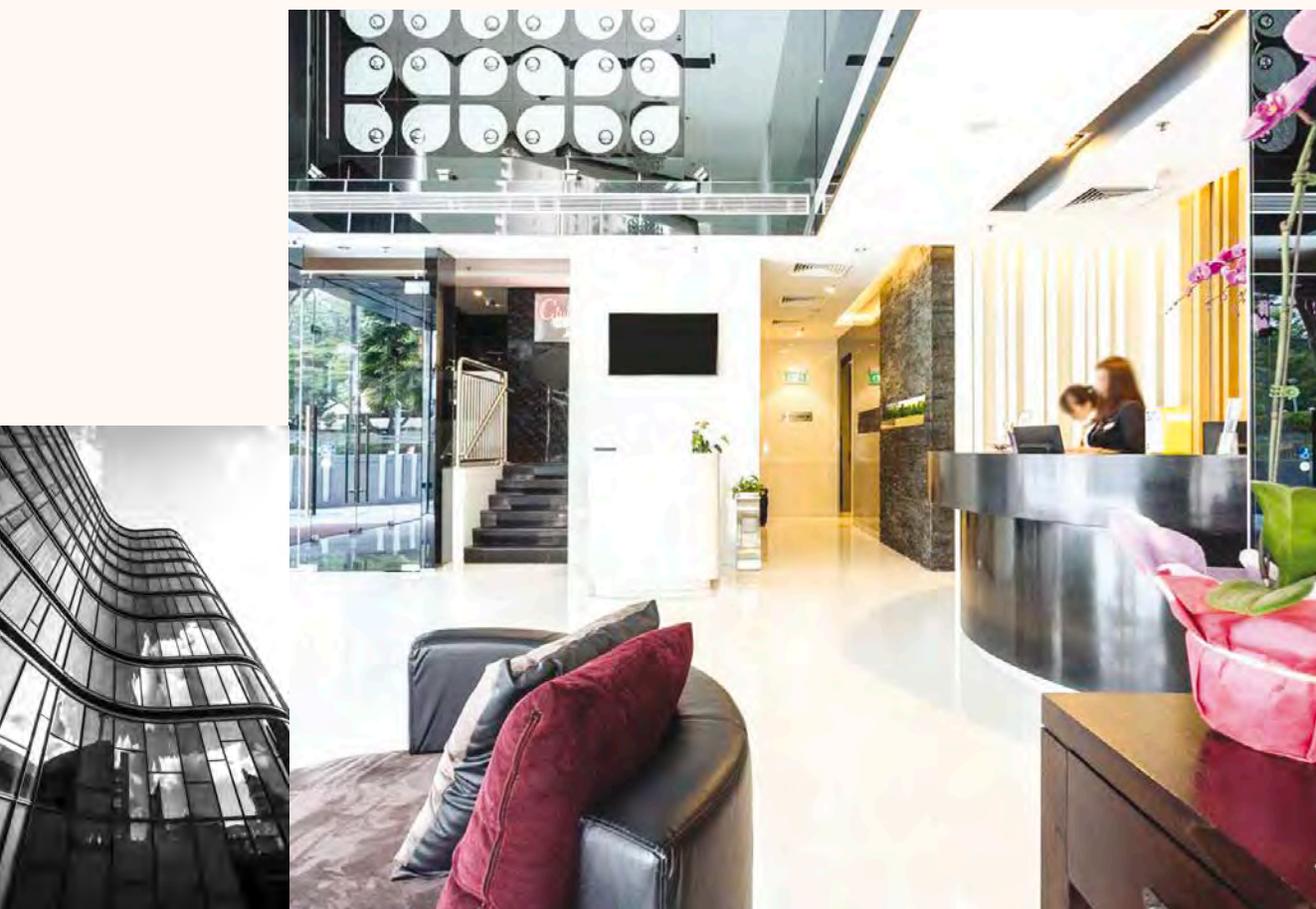
Beware of emails that do not address you by name and verify the sender's email address. If you did not request to reset password, do not click on the link!

Source:
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hotline@ncpc.org.sg

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SEACARE FOCUS



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SNCF lauds women co-operators for contributing to community

Seacare Group Corporate Relations Senior Manager Kathryn Ang was one of the 56 women co-operators honoured at SNCF's Co-operative Movement Night on Jun 3.

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THEMED “WOMEN MAKE MAGIC”, the gala paid tribute to women’s contributions to the community via Singapore’s co-op workforce, of which 80 per cent are women.

The event at Flower Dome, Gardens by the Bay was attended by 260 guests, consisting of employees and members of co-operatives.

MP Yeo Wan Ling was the guest of honour. She is also director of NTUC U Women and Family unit, promoting women’s career, family and caregiving needs.

“Our sisters bring different ideas and perspectives to the management table,

embark on major projects that enhance the efficiency of a co-operative, and make a difference by stepping into the front line to engage and help a fellow

member of a co-operative in need,” she said.

Receiving the awards on stage, Ms Ang was lauded for her effective liaison with members of the Jalan Kukoh Resident’s Committee, allowing Seacare Co-operative to reach out to over 700 residents during annual festivities.

“I am honoured to be recognised for the efforts put into our CSR projects which I often did independently. But I must add that my colleagues’ spontaneity and good initiatives help enable the smooth running of the projects,” said Kathryn.

Seacare Deputy Group CEO Shena Foo, co-presenting the awards as SNCF Executive Council member, said: “We are proud of Kathryn’s contributions as a selfless co-operator and a competent colleague who juggles multiple tasks.”

“The power of women for social change cannot be undervalued. The co-operative space can be an enabler to help women become meaningful contributors in their communities,” she added. 



Learning Objectives

- Recognize the role one plays in contributing to the organisation’s vision, mission, and values
- Demonstrate service delivery in accordance with the organisation’s vision, mission, and values
- Monitor own performance to ensure consistency with the organisation’s vision, mission, and values







Training to be good employees

TO STRENGTHEN EMPLOYEES’ SKILLS AND boost organisational performance, Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd organised a Zoom workshop titled: Aligning Your Service Promises (Tips on How to be a Good Employee) on May 30.

Seventeen staff from various schools and government agencies attended the training, which expounded on corporate values – such as service excellence, teamwork and personal development – and requisite skills for achieving these values.

The participants found the training practical and appreciated the opportunities provided by Seacare Manpower Services to help them become more competent at what they do. 

Participants who have completed the training

PARTICIPANTS	
Tan Hong Choo	Alexandra Pri SCH
Tan Ha Eng	Bedok Green Sec SCH
Nasopa Binte Naim	Blangah Rise Pri SCH
Menon Rama Chandran	Changkat Changi Sec SCH
Yogarani D/O Tegerajan	CHIJ Pri (Toa Payoh)
Huang Yin	Dunman High Sch
Wong Yock Wah	Horizon Pri SCH
Koh Lay Wan (Xu Liyuan)	Horizon Pri SCH
Chan Chuen Sum	Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA)
Khairunnisa Binte Kamarusi	Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd
Alya Irdina Binte Salim	Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd
Nurul Shadrina Binte Jumain	Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd
Siti Sarah Binte Mohamad Jamil	South View Pri SCH
Jayshree Balasubramaniam	Teck Whye Pri SCH
Bhavani D/O Balakrishnan	Teck Whye Sec SCH
Tan Yeow Heng (Chen Yaoxing)	Westwood Pri SCH
Molly Wan Guek Neo	White Sands Pri SCH

Congratulations to our Long Service Award Recipients

Seacare congratulates six staff on achieving their 10 and 20 career milestones. On conferring them the Long Service Award (LSA), we have the following messages for the recipients as we thank them for their service, dedication that made Seacare a successful co-operative today.

10-YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARD

Mr Francis Choo
General Manager, The Seacare Hotel
Seacare Hospitality Pte Ltd

Kudos to the effort to grow the market presence of The Seacare Hotel and in ensuring quality care, comfort and safety of seafarers during their crew changes during the pandemic. We take great pride in presenting the 10-year LSA to you.



20-YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARD



Mr Ahmad Repahi
Security Officer, The Seacare Hotel
Seacare Hospitality Pte Ltd

We are proud to have you as part of our Seacare family with your dedication to Seacare Properties in 2001 before moving to The Seacare Hotel in 2012. You effectively secure the hotel premises as if they were your own and make guests feel welcomed and safe. Well done, Ahmad!

Mdm Ng Loi Tin

Cleaner

Seacare Environmental Pte Ltd

We rejoice with you on attaining your 20 years with Seacare Environmental.

Everyone knows you as the cheerful and caring 'auntie' who keeps our premises



sparkling clean and a generous elder who shares delicious home-cooked dishes. We wish you a happy retirement!

Ms Amanda Yew

Assistant Manager, Finance

Seacare Maritime Medical Centre Pte Ltd

We greatly appreciate your dedication during your secondment by Seacare Holdings to SMMC in the past 20 years to oversee the Finance section. You are a diligent and resourceful team player that SMMC could count on, contributing to various operations such as Finance processes, cash flow management and HR/Admin processes. Thank you, Amanda for always being so dependable.

Ms Fatimah Bte Mahmod

Manager

Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd

Congratulations Fatimah on reaching your 20th year of career milestone. Your rich experience, knowledge and strong organisational skills for the fast-paced recruitment field are assets to Seacare Manpower Services and inspirations for your colleagues! Great job!



Ms Cai Wen Ping

Assistant Manager (Clinical Assistant)

Seacare Maritime Medical Centre Pte Ltd

Thank you for being the familiar face of SMMC and effectively attending to patients and visiting seafarers who all felt welcomed and attended to. You have effectively supported our doctors by diligently carrying out your clinical duties. We are proud to present you with the Award. Congratulations, Wen Ping!





SMMC on using telemedicine to assess seafarers

26° 27

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Telemedicine has been thrust into the spotlight in the fight against Covid-19 and is today a vital component of Singapore's maritime healthcare.



ADOPTING TELEMEDICINE AT THE ONSET

of the pandemic, Seacare Maritime Medical Centre Pte Ltd (SMMC) maximises the video conferencing capabilities of BWell (formally named SmartRm) offered by Impact Health to provide medical consultation and support for seafarers.

“Medical evaluation via videoconferencing helps us effectively assess seafarers’ health condition, in real-time, in the absence of physical consultation. We can also determine basic parameters, such as temperature, pulse rate, and oxygen saturation via available devices onboard,” said SMMC CEO Chia Yih Woei.

Sharing his insights on seafarers' health at the Crew Welfare Week, Dr Chia added that SMMC uses telemedicine to assess and issue Fit-To-Travel certifications to enable them to sign off.

"We also administer supervised tele-ART for seafarers. If the results turn out to be negative, we can immediately proceed to issue fit-to-travel certification for crew sign-off and repatriation," he said.

Joining Dr Chia in the discussion, Alex Ngai, general manager of Impact Health Group, highlighted that Bwell allows patients to consult the same doctor, even for follow-ups, a service not found in most telemedicine services on the market.

Mr Ngai added that telemedicine should not be tied to a specific platform; it should be versatile, offering seafarers a choice of apps via the best available internet connection.

"Telemedicine has proven to be useful in certain and most situations in maritime healthcare, and we will continue to develop the capability of telemedicine to better serve the

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Dr Chia Yih Woei
SMMC CEO



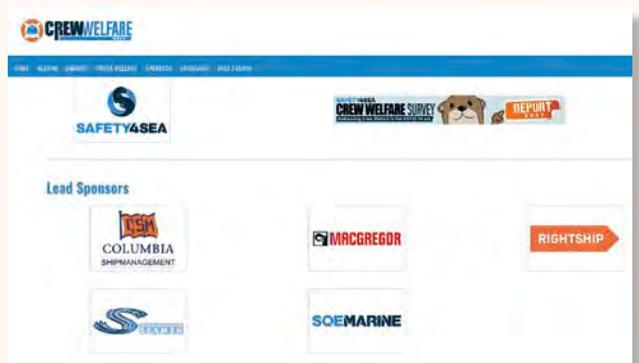
44 Telemedicine should not be tied to a specific platform; it should be versatile, offering seafarers a choice of apps via the best available internet connection.

Alex Ngai

GM of Impact Health Group

maritime industry and the well-being of all crew," said Dr Chia.

SOS was one of the lead sponsors of the Crew Welfare Week, held Jun 21-23, which acknowledges the invaluable role of seafarers as key workers by focusing on their safety, career and holistic well-being. 



Hari Raya goodie bags spark joy for Jalan Kukoh residents

Muslim residents from Jalan Kukoh broke into wide smiles as they collected Hari Raya goodie bags, an annual initiative by Seacare Co-operative to spark festive joy for less privileged households.

THE GOODIE BAGS CONTAINING PREMIUM FESTIVE SNACKS, such as beef chili deng deng, lapis cakes and chocolates, were packed and delivered to the Jalan Kukoh Resident's Committee by Seacare volunteers on Apr 26.

Seacare volunteers also personally brought goodie bags to the doorsteps of selected households and chatted with residents.



“With the ease of Covid measures, we are excited to once again reconnect with selected residents, face-to-face, like we did before the past,”

said Project Manager Ong Zhiwei, General Manager of Seacare Properties Development.

“The spirit of giving and sharing is firmly rooted in Seacare’s DNA. We always look forward to sharing our joy and warmth with Jalan Kukoh residents,” he added.

Some 100 households in Jalan Kukoh estate benefitted from the initiative this year. 



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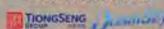


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