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samudra

ISSUE

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



Celebrating Day of the Seafarers 2022

**Singapore leads
global maritime
centre ranking for
ninth year running**

inside:

**SEACARE
FOCUS**

Asset enhancement
for Seacare's
UK hotels

Club@52
reopens
with a bang!



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Complete, in-depth and extended coverage
of seafarers news and maritime events.



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EDUCATIONAL DAY-OUTS TO LOCAL FARMS

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SOS ORGANISED EDUCATIONAL DAY OUTS for members and their families to Kampong Kampus and Nippon Koi Farm on Jul 3 and 24. Participants enjoyed



the farm tours and workshop, learning about organic-grown plants, herbs and fruits. They also learned how food fish and pesticide-free aquaponic vegetables are produced locally to meet 30 per cent of Singapore's food and nutritional needs!



CELEBRATING MID-AUTUMN WITH AWWA RESIDENTS



SOS volunteers celebrated the Mid-Autumn festival in September, brightening the lives of residents from the AWWA Community Homes for Senior Citizens with boxes of Mooncakes. The small gesture brought joy to the residents, who posed with smiling faces.





SMARTPHONE TRAINING WORKSHOP

SOS ORGANISED A SMARTPHONE TRAINING workshop on Aug 20 to help members navigate the digital world easily. Participants also learned to use communications applications and social platforms to connect with friends and loved ones.



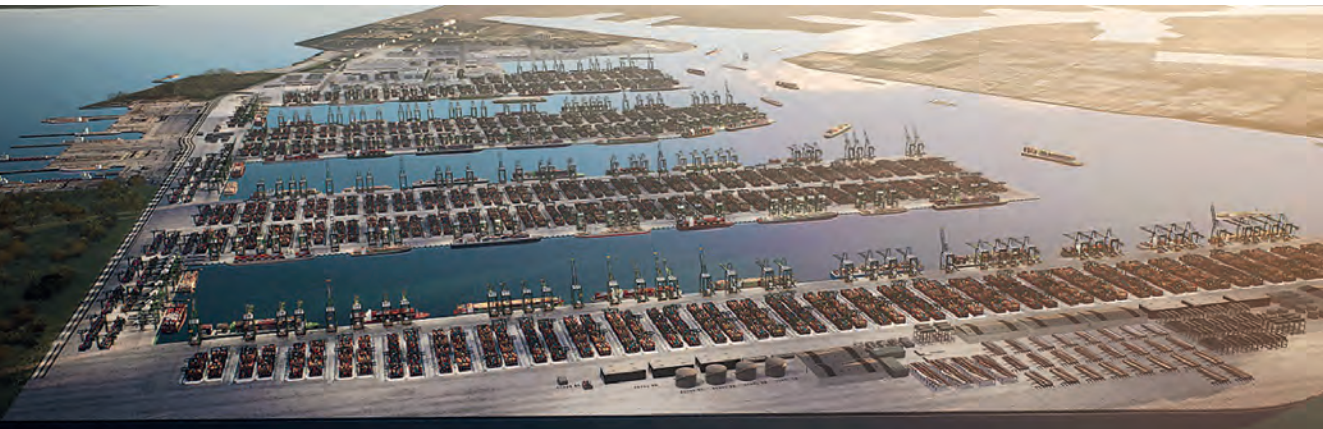
SQRT 92 & 93

THE SINGAPORE (NANTONG) INTERNATIONAL MARITIME INSTITUTE (SNIMI) conducted Seacare Quality Ratings Training (SQRT) 92 and 93 for 50 trainees in June and July.

SNIMI trainers worked on strengthening the trainees' English proficiency, including their listening,

reading and listening abilities, using commonly used maritime terms and everyday phrases.

The 4-week course also teaches shipboard skills and knowledge such as International Convention for the Prevention of pollution from Ships (MARPOL) as part of its training syllabus. [S](#)



Ports put Singapore on world map, says PM Lee at National Day Rally

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Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said Singapore’s air and sea ports play a critical role in putting the country on the global stage as a thriving business and trading hub. The completion of the Tuas Mega Port would also make Singapore a leading global player in the maritime space.

SPEAKING ON A RANGE OF ISSUES AT

his National Day Rally 2022 on Aug 21, PM Lee highlighted that Singapore, as a global city and port, must stay open and connected to the world even as countries began turning inwards, adopting protectionism.



The prime minister cited how the PSA remained open 24/7 while ports in other countries experienced closure, severe congestion and long delays during the pandemic.



All images of Tuas Mega Port courtesy of MPA

“This reinforced Singapore’s position as the ‘catch-up port’ where vessels made up time for delays elsewhere,” he said.

In 2021, Singapore handled a record 37.5 million TEUs of containers, retaining its position as the world’s busiest transshipment hub. When completed in the next 20 years, Tuas port would handle 65 million TEUs annually – almost doubling today’s volume.

In his speech, PM Lee said Tuas port has kicked off Phase 1 of its operation, with international vessels already calling at its first two berths since December 2021.

Amid applause, he also shared that Tuas port would be the world’s largest fully-automated port, using AI to coordinate operations, including vessel traffic and port clearance.

“Instead of trucks with drivers, it deploys a fleet of driverless AGVs (Automated Guided Vehicles). There

are no drivers. It just moves around magically by itself,” he added.

PM Lee credited port workers, unions, PSA and MPA for the smooth transition to a fully-automated port.

“Management and unions worked hand-in-glove to retrain workers and help them adapt to new working environments. On their part, workers picked up new skills, upgraded themselves, and became more productive,” he added.

On the economic future of Singapore, PM Lee said Singapore, freshly emerged from the pandemic and navigating international tensions, must forge a world-class talent pool comprising local and foreign talents to stay competitive. He stressed the need to attract and retain not only foreign investments and projects across industries but also top talents who can contribute to the Singapore Story. 



Photo: ndp.gov.sg

The virtual marching contingent consisted of members from the unions, ports and shipping industry, who had spent months training and preparing for the live telecast in NDP2022.

Representing SOS in the contingent was Executive Secretary Chen Chuanyi. Kudos to Brother Chuanyi for the great effort!



CELEBRATING NATIONAL DAY

Joining onsite marching contingents at the National Day Parade & Ceremony on Aug 9, Maritime Singapore flew its banners high in its first virtual marching parade.



Singapore leads global maritime centre ranking for ninth year running

Singapore topped the world maritime centre ranking for the ninth consecutive year in the Xinhua-Baltic International Shipping Centre Development (ISCD) Index.

THE ISCD INDEX, PUBLISHED BY DATA PROVIDER BALTIC EXCHANGE,

in collaboration with Xinhua news agency, ranks 43 maritime locations based on performances, such as cargo throughput, port facilities, maritime services and business environment.

Singapore scored 94.88 out of 100 points. Second on the list was maritime professional services stronghold, London, with 83.04 points. Shanghai, home to the world’s largest port, took third place with 82.79 points.

The city-state is ranked first based on its robust port infrastructure,



comprehensive range of maritime services and supportive government policies.

Mr Chee Hong Tat, Senior Minister of State for Finance and Transport attribute Singapore’s performance to strong collaborations between maritime tripartite partners, including the unions.

MPA Chief Executive Quah Ley Hoon concurred: “It is a reflection of the strong tripartite partnership with our partners, industry players, and unions in Maritime Singapore. During the pandemic, we are also reminded of the global nature of shipping and the need for close collaborations to address global challenges such as crew change.”

“MPA’s tripartite partnership with industry and unions to overcome the disruptions caused by Covid-19 and challenges of digitalisation and decarbonisation helped to strengthen the global competitiveness of Singapore’s port and shipping sector. This achievement benefits all, including seafarers,” said SOS President Kam Soon Huat.

Brother Kam said SOS would continue to forge strong collaboration with maritime partners to deliver innovative solutions to improve seafarers’ workplace health, safety and welfare and help them better meet the fast-evolving demands in the maritime sector. 

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Ranking	2022	2021
1	Singapore	Singapore
2	London	London
3	Shanghai	Shanghai
4	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
5	Dubai	Dubai
6	Rotterdam	Rotterdam
7	Hamburg	Hamburg
8	New York/ New Jersey	Athens/Piraeus
9	Athens/Piraeus	New York/ New Jersey
10	Ningbo	Ningbo



Taking maritime education to the next level

The Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS), together with Jiangsu Shipping College and Singhai Marine Services, are proud partners of the Singapore (Nantong) International Maritime Institute (SNIMI), which celebrates its 11th anniversary this year.

ESTABLISHED IN 2011, SNIMI HAS PLACED ITSELF at the forefront of maritime training and as a trainer of choice for shipping employers, investing in quality resources – talents, digital assets and innovative training approaches fostered by good workplace culture.

As a valued partner, SOS brings an extensive international network and recruitment prospects to the successful alliance, actively promoting SNIMI as a go-to training institute for vessels with SOS collective agreements and advocating its tailor-made courses for international shipping lines.

Eleven years into the making, SNIMI has conducted over 1,000 courses for 15,000 seafarers through 35 training programmes conducted



in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, Yangon and Georgia. And the list keeps growing.



Full-fledged learning resources such as mockup galleys, smart workshops and digitally-equipped classrooms

At the forefront of maritime training

SNIMI prides itself as one of the best maritime training institutes of its class – a claim vindicated by numerous accolades and awards.

To name a few achievements, SNIMI is the first training institute recognised by the China Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) for its Electronic Chart Display Information Systems (ECDIS) and Bridge and Engine Room Resource Management IMO Model Courses.

The ISO 9001:2015 certified trainer is also a recipient of the prestigious China Education Achievement First Class Award, adding to the collective



achievements of Jiangsu Shipping College.

Besides ECDIS and bridge and engine room simulators, it runs full-fledged learning resources such as mockup galleys, smart workshops and digitally-equipped classrooms to embark trainees on a successful career at sea.

Answering tomorrow's training needs

SNIMI actively consults shipowners to address specific learning challenges before tailoring IMO-standard curriculums to accelerate trainees' skill mastery. It correspondingly fills the market gap for customised training

Works are also in the pipeline to acquire virtual reality training systems and remote-control simulators to help them demonstrate competency for tomorrow's automated and green shipping.

solutions that fit the learning requirements of global seafaring.

To up the game, SNIMI uses advanced learning systems and engages international and local specialists to broaden trainees' maritime exposure.

Works are also in the pipeline to acquire virtual reality training systems and remote-control simulators to help them demonstrate competency for tomorrow's automated and green shipping.

Among courses offered to officers and ratings include Liquid Cargo Handling, Leadership and Management Training for junior and senior officers, Corrosion Prevention, and Cruise Staff Training.

To boost the English proficiency of Chinese trainees, SNIMI regularly conducts the Seacare Quality Ratings Training (SQRT), which systematically strengthens students' listening, reading and articulation abilities using standard maritime terms and everyday phrases.



From top: SNIMI regularly conducts the Seacare Quality Ratings Training (SQRT) to boost the English proficiency of Chinese trainees; Seacare Quality Cooks Training (SQCT) courses for trainee cooks

It also conducts the Seacare Quality Cooks Training (SQCT) courses for trainee cooks who wish to marry their culinary passion with a career at sea.

Auspicious celebration

On this special and auspicious celebration, SOS congratulates SNIMI on its remarkable achievements and affirms the commitment of its management, staff and trainers to put SNIMI at the forefront of maritime training.

As SOS continues to enjoy a robust partnership with Jiangsu Shipping College and Singhai Marine Services, we are confident that our continued collaboration will propel SNIMI to new heights in the maritime training of tomorrow. **S**



Training ships at SNIMI fitted with equipment to help trainees apply their classroom knowledge to practical skills and professional competence.



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Seafarers face port lockdowns and crew change crisis again

The Russian and Ukrainian conflict in Europe has thrown overboard hopes for post-pandemic normalcy for seafarers, who once again found themselves caught in port congestions and crew changeovers.

CREW FROM RUSSIA, UKRAINE AND OTHER NATIONALITIES were trapped on vessels stranded in the Black Sea and Sea of Azov, among crossfire zones that saw ships detained amid conflicts.

Many seafarers have stayed beyond their contracts as there were no flights home—those who could repatriate fear lost opportunities to rejoin ships if they returned.

“It is not just the Ukrainian seafarers who are worried about getting home.

Seafarers from Russia and the surrounding countries such as Georgia and Armenia are also worried about getting home,” said Stella Maris port chaplain Wojciech Holub.

“They have advised their families to flee while they would carry on working and supporting their families in some way,” said fellow port chaplain, Deacon Doug, reported Nautilus International.

Denied supplies and port entry

Accounting for almost 15 per cent of the world's 1.8 million seafarers, Russians and Ukrainians are caught in situations of being starved or isolated.

"We have to recognise there is competition for food depending on which ports you are in on the coast. It is literally a matter of life and death for some Ukrainians still locked in defending their cities," said ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton.

"You can imagine the first thought is not to resupply ships with foreign nationals at anchor," said Cotton, adding that ITF is assisting Ukrainian seafarers and their families in their evacuations.

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) likewise reported ports denying Russian-flagged vessels access to vital maritime services. Some ports have barred foreign crew to prevent 'jumping ship and disappearing' instead of repatriating.

IMO said these situations threaten the safety and security of crews and vessels, especially those stranded in Ukrainian ports.

As with Covid, seafarers are being exposed to issues not of their making, ICS said in a statement. "Multiple ships have been hit by munitions, seafarers have been killed and injured and seafarers of all nationalities are trapped on ships berthed in ports."



While ICS, ITF and IMO have called for blue humanitarian corridors to help ships leave ports and conflict zones safely – attempts have proven difficult and dangerous.

In late July, Russian warships in the Black Sea fired missiles hitting Ukraine's southern port of Odesa, despite a deal by Moscow and Kyiv to unblock grain exports and allow safe passage in and out of Ukrainian ports.

In March, sea mines sunk Panama-flagged cargo vessel Helt near Odesa, days before a Russian missile hit bulker MV Banglar Samriddhi, killing Bangladeshi third engineer Hadisur Rahman on watch duty.



Multiple ships have been hit by munitions, seafarers have been killed and injured and seafarers of all nationalities are trapped on ships berthed in ports..

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)



ITF noted that the bulker was anchored near 120 other stranded vessels carrying 1,500 foreign (non-Russian and non-Ukrainian) crew.

Seafarers’ rights and safety threaten

“International law regulating the conduct of hostilities explicitly prohibits attacks against merchant vessels flying the flag of neutral to the war states,” said Human Rights at Sea (HRAS), accusing Russia of committing war crimes against seafarers and international merchant ships.

HRAS added that the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine highlighted the vulnerability of seafarers in the global system.

“Human rights atrocities continue to be committed against people at sea, but their isolation from other areas of the global system, combined with sentiments

of ‘sea-blindness’ means that seafarers’ human rights are often not adequately enforced or implemented until it is too late.”

Industry observers said skilled and experienced seafarers, having endured physical and mental strain for months on board during Covid-19, are leaving the industry. Among those who remain, morale is low.

China’s port lockdown, the surge in consumer demand and the prolonged Russian-Ukraine war have further congested ports, adding pressure on vessels and crew.

Experts believe the global seafaring workforce has become collateral damage.

A challenge to hire seafarers

Global shipping has found it increasingly challenging to hire seafarers, said ICS Secretary General Guy Platten.

Flights have been cancelled. Fears over crew safety and increasing insurance premiums to send ships to Ukraine or Russia have discouraged shipowners from sending vessels to these countries, noted ICS.

“And how do you pay people when they’ve got Russian bank accounts. How do you get money to them and their families because many banks have been sanctioned, so there are practical issues as well,” said Platten.

Swire Shipping MD James Woodrow said the Ukraine situation, part of a series of black swan events in recent years, has changed crewing dynamics.

“First, we had a lot of difficulties with our Myanmar seafarers [due to the coup] ...With Covid, we had difficulties with seafarers in India and the Philippines and now in China. We’ve also got Ukraine. I think at the moment, we want to be as diversified as possible.” **S**

“International law regulating the conduct of hostilities explicitly prohibits attacks against merchant vessels flying the flag of neutral to the war states.

Mental health key in tackling seafarers' suicides

A study by the UK government found holistic mental health 'fitness' and support services helpful in tackling suicides at sea – which has reportedly risen since the crew-change crisis in 2020.

A STUDY BY THE UK GOVERNMENT

found holistic mental health 'fitness' and support services helpful in tackling suicides at sea – which has reportedly risen since the crew-change crisis in 2020.

The study cited top-down approaches via organisational and onboard cultures, and bottom-up approaches via cadet training and recruitment processes, as key to addressing mental health issues. It also found onboard facilities, such as swimming pools, sports courts and free internet, among factors that could aid seafarers' social connectivity and mood.

In his foreword, Minister for Aviation, Maritime & Security Robert Courts said prolonged work onboard during the crew-change crisis, precarious contracts and poor pay are ingredients for a mental health crisis, which could trigger suicides.

Survey respondents believed larger shipping firms offer more comprehensive mental health support services than smaller firms. They also found mental health awareness programmes and helplines provided by seafarer unions helpful.



However, some seafarers felt uncomfortable accessing support services due to cultural and religious stigmas around mental health and concerns about confidentiality.

While support for seafarers is readily available, seafarers often have poor awareness of mental health issues, with many unwilling to share their woes with fellow crewmates.

The finding also revealed that suicide cases might have been under-reported to protect surviving families financially and emotionally. For instance, the crew might have reported suicides as 'accidents' or 'missing at sea' to ensure families received insurance payouts (the family would not receive payouts if the seafarer had attempted suicide).

SOS understands the mental toll seafarers endure, especially during times of uncertainty and prolonged periods onboard. We support the industry's calls for firms to adopt best practices to support seafarers' mental and overall well-being.

Further, we urge shipping companies to provide free and fast internet onboard, allow shore leave while in port, and offer contracts in line with the MLC, 2006 as amended to enrich seafarers' social connectivity. [s](https://www.samudra.sea.org.sg)



Global piracy and armed robbery cases at all-time low

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IMB received the lowest number of reported incidents for the first half of any year since 1994, but incidents in the Singapore Straits rise, accounting for over a quarter of global cases.

THE ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU'S (IMB) latest global piracy report detailed 58 cases of piracy and armed robbery against ships – the lowest since 1994 – down from 68 cases in the same period last year.

In the first half of 2022, IMB's Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) reported 55 vessels boarded; two attempted attacks and one vessel hijacked.

IMB Director Michael Howlett said the figure is good news for seafarers, the shipping industry, and global trade, which promotes economic growth. Howlett urged governments and responding authorities to continue their patrols to deter these incidents.

The IMB PRC cautioned that violence

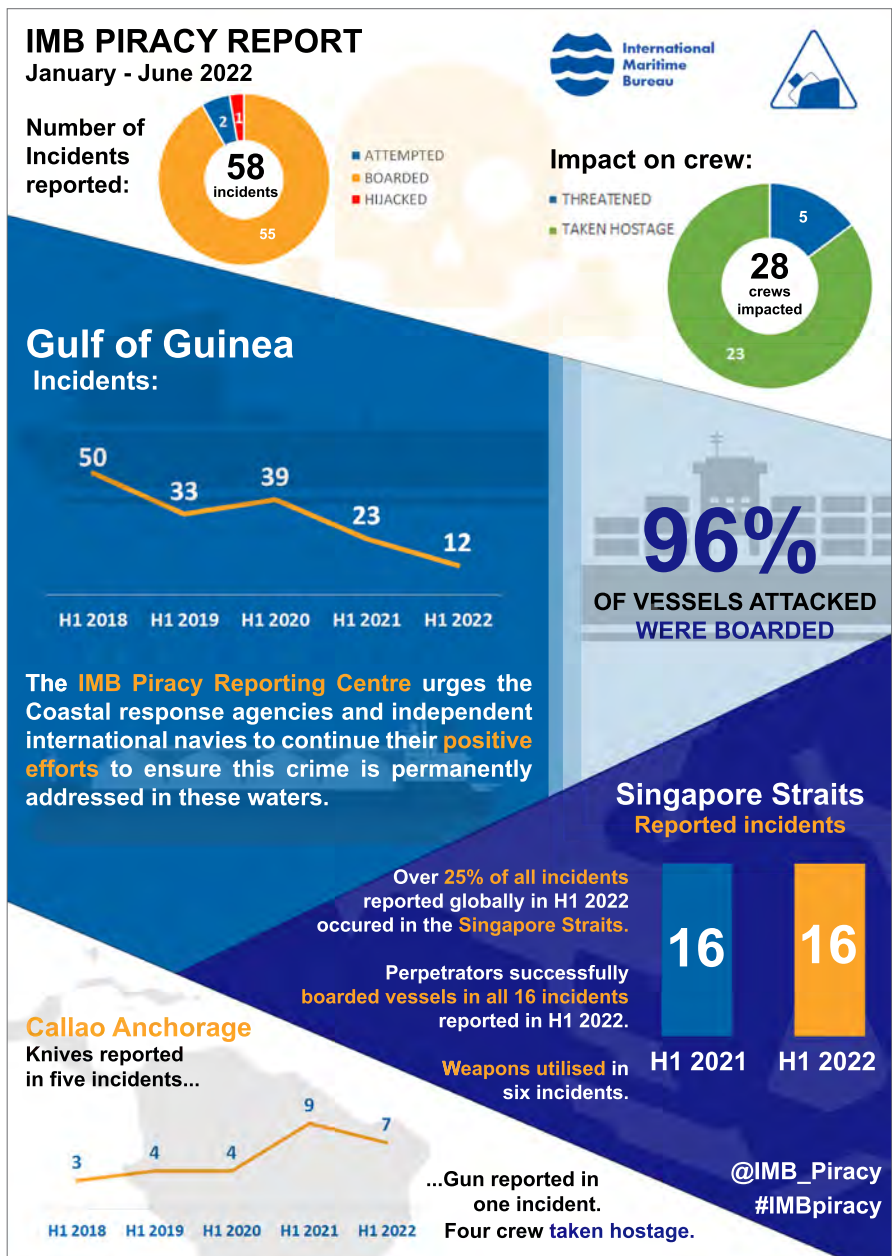
against crews continues, with 23 taken hostage and five threatened.

Singapore Straits

Vessels transiting the Singapore Straits continue to be targeted and boarded by local perpetrators – this accounts for over 25 per cent of global incidents since the start of the year.

Perpetrators successfully boarded the vessels in all 16 incidents. While considered low-level opportunistic crimes, crew continue to be threatened with weapons, reported in at least six incidents.

Outside the Singapore Straits, the Indonesian archipelagic also saw rising cases for the first time since 2018. Five



vessels were boarded at anchor, and two others boarded at berth. Weapons were reported in three incidents, with one crew reportedly threatened.

Threat subsists in the Gulf of Aden

While no incidents were reported this year, piracy still exists in the waters off the southern Red Sea and in the Gulf of

Aden, including the Yemeni and Somali coasts.

The opportunity for incidents has reduced, but Somali pirates continue to possess the capability and capacity to carry out incidents. Merchant ships are advised to adhere to the recommendations in the latest Best Management Practices, while transiting in these waters. [s](#)



Celebrating Day of the Seafarers 2022

Maritime Singapore celebrated The Day of the Seafarers (DotS) on Jun 25, presenting seafarers with gift bags themed 'Your voyage – then and now, share your journey.'

THE EVENT, ATTENDED BY MARITIME TRIPARTITE PARTNERS, including SOS President Kam Soon Huat, took place at the International Seafarers Drop-In Centre at Jurong Port.

The gifts were packed in canvas tote bags containing a towel, sketchbook and markers. The bags would be distributed

to some 10,000 seafarers from about 500 ships calling at the ports of Singapore.

Seafarers receiving the gift bag were encouraged to participate in a tote bag design contest by sharing their sailing journey and experiences through the creative design of their tote bags.

Meanwhile, SOS celebrated DotS with our IROs distributing the gift bags and other commemorative items to crew on board a series of vessels between July and September.

The gift bags and items were presented in recognition of seafarers' hard work and contributions to the maritime industry and global economy.

Seafarers were delighted to receive the gift bags and expressed their appreciation, with many happily posing for photos to mark the occasion.





During the visits on board, our IROs also conducted research and surveys to understand the concerns of seafarers and the maritime industry at large.

These data, built upon external studies and resources, aim to improve the working and living conditions of seafarers on board vessels and allow SOS to make



better decisions in implementing meaningful projects towards the cause.

These activities formed part of SOS's outreach efforts to engage with seafarers, enabling the union to understand and better address their challenges and needs.

DotS celebrated on Jun 25 every year, recognises the vital contribution of seafarers from all over the world in facilitating international seaborne trade, the world economy and civil society as a whole. **S**





Crew owed at least US\$350,000 in wages

SOS was alerted of a non-payment of wages for crew onboard tanker MT VICTOR 1 on Jul 14, prompting Vice President Mohamad Abu Bakar and IRO Alan Kor to board the Liberian-flagged vessel immediately.

THE DUO MET COUNTERPARTS FROM SMOU AND SPOKE WITH ALL 23 CREW, mostly Indonesian and Pakistani. The crew members were owed four months of outstanding wages since January, estimated to be at least US\$350,000, leading to the vessel's arrest in May.

Both our IROs educated the crew on their employment rights, answered their enquiries and attended to their welfare needs. P&I correspondents and lawyers were also onboard to explain the wage settlement process.

The crew appreciated the help from both unions and were happy to have their enquiries answered. The

crew signed off in August, but the vessel remained in anchorage as of Oct 1.

SOS will continue to monitor and provide updates on the case. **S**



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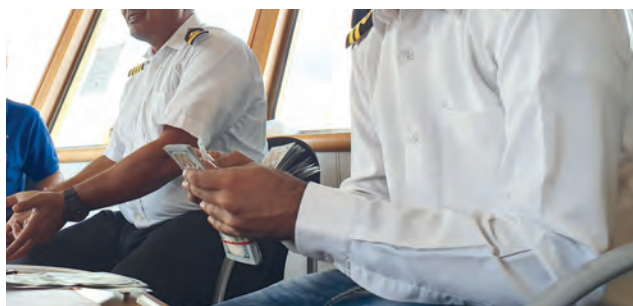
Assisting seafarers in grievances and enquiries

Since the start of 2022, SOS has assisted in some 100 grievance cases and enquiries from seafarers in matters such as repatriation, owed wages and poor working/living conditions on board.

REPATRIATION FORMED ALMOST HALF OF THE SEAFARERS' GRIEVANCES, followed by matters relating to outstanding salaries, advice, and compensations. SOS IROs also attend to seafarers' general enquiries and, if necessary, direct them to affiliated unions and relevant bodies for follow-ups.

With the ease of port restrictions, our IROs have resumed ship visits, boarding some 30 vessels to date. The IROs would check on the crew in person to address their basic and welfare needs, bringing along gifts and souvenirs during the visit. Seafarers appreciate these simple gestures and thank SOS for reaching out to them.

Resolving seafarers' grievances and visiting crew on board form part of SOS's mission to represent the interest and well-being of seafaring members, ensuring they are duly rewarded for their hard work. 



DO YOU KNOW YOUR RIGHTS?

As a seafarer you have rights – employment rights, legal rights, trade union rights and human rights. The best way to ensure that your rights are protected is to join a union. In this issue, we share ITF's checklist for seafarers' contracts to work at sea.

- 1** Do not start work on a ship without having a **written contract**. It is a requirement of the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) that you can review the contract before signing and seek advice if you want
- 2** Never sign a blank contract, or a contract that binds you to any terms and conditions that are **not specified** or that you are not familiar with
- 3** Make sure that the **duration of the contract** is clearly stated
- 4** Do not sign a contract that contains any clause that restricts your right to join, contact, consult with or be represented by a **trade union of your choice**
- 5** Ensure that you are given and **retain a copy of the contract** you have signed
- 6** Check the conditions for terminating your contract, including **how much notice the shipowner must give you to terminate your contract**

SCAN HERE FOR THE FULL CHECKLIST:



Scam alert

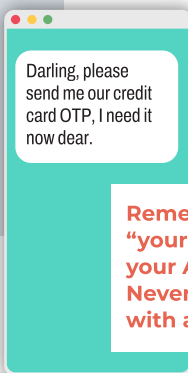
What is scam? A scam is designed to trick you into giving away your money, personal details or data by offering an attractive deal or false information.



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.

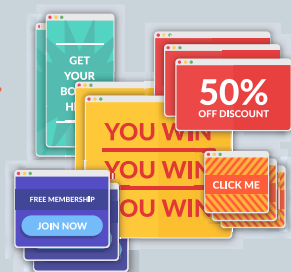
Be wary of strangers you befriend online. Never reveal too much information or send money to strangers.



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

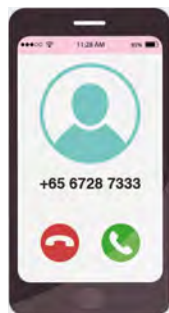
Good deals might be too good to be true.

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



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!



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.

Source:

www.scamalert.sg/scam-iq-quiz
www.scamalert.sg/support/quiz
hotline@ncpc.org.sg

E-mail:

letsfightscams@ncpc.org.sg

Tel: 64782103



SEACARE FOCUS



INSIDE:

22 Asset enhancement for Seacare's UK hotels **24** F+B International enters global trading arena **25** Congratulations to Mr Raymond Chia Lee Meng on being conferred The Public Service Star, 2022 **26** Club@52 reopens with a bang! **28** Celebrating Mid Autumn with Jalan Kukoh residents

Asset enhancement for Seacare's UK hotels

Welcoming holidaymakers and international tourists in a post-Covid travel boom, UK hoteliers are throwing promotional deals to lure and recapture market shares.

AMID THE FRENZY AND ENJOYING STRONG SALES and room occupancies, Seacare's UK hotels are striding ahead of the pack, having undergone transformations and upgrading works during the pandemic.

The timely renovation projects form part of Seacare Hospitality (UK) Ltd's portfolio asset enhancement strategy to accelerate the re-opening of its hotels, in tandem with easing international borders. The move underlined the firm's long-term commitment to the UK and confidence in its hospitality sector.

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Above and left: The Crown Spa Hotel's curated designs highlighted the rustic charm of Yorkshire and Crown Spa's fame as a wedding and anniversary hot spot.



For instance, the Crown Spa Hotel in Scarborough and the Ivy Bush Royal Hotel in Carmarthen underwent facelifts, introducing new décor and design concepts.

These projects ramp up guests' experience and ratings – registering positive feedback and comments from international and domestic visitors.




Ivy Bush Royal Hotel

The Ivy Bush Royal, as famous for its luxury comfort as its central locality in Carmarthen, stepped up its décor blending old-world charm with contemporary designs.

Recent upgrades punctuated style and inspiration to its reception area, leading striking visual trails to its lounge and terrace – thanks to a bold mix of vintage and contemporary furnishings.

The extensive project added refreshing touches to rooms and expanded the patio and outdoor dining areas.

Guests from both hotels felt uplifted by the new décor and shared persuasive reviews affirming their enjoyment and expectations. 

The Crown Spa Hotel

Renovation works on the Crown Spa Hotel have illuminated its Grand Function Hall showcasing new chandeliers, luxury carpets and wallpaper. These curated designs highlighted the rustic charm of Yorkshire and Crown Spa's fame as a wedding and anniversary hot spot.

Further installations of elegant ambient lighting, new floorings and curtains accentuated the hotel's lobby and lounge, creating a unique and refreshing space for discerning travellers.

This page: Ivy Bush Royal Hotel added refreshing touches to rooms and expanded the patio and outdoor dining areas.



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F+B International enters global trading arena

F+B International Pte Ltd is a newly incorporated trading firm that imports, exports, and distributes Food & Beverage products globally.

THE FIRM IDENTIFIES ESTABLISHED BRANDS AND QUALITY PRODUCTS


and taps on Singapore's strategic location and extensive air and sea links to distribute them to international markets.

F+B International also identifies untapped markets in North America, Europe, Asia Pacific and Australia/New Zealand to launch exclusive products with potential demands.



According to the firm, the products are chosen based on popularity and demands, even during the pandemic or times of economic and political uncertainties.

F+B International's long-term plans include launching its Singapore in-house brands for worldwide distribution.

Seacare Foundation Pte Ltd, an investor of F+B International, is represented by Mr Eugene Guo He-Jun and Mr Alan Kor Wei Lun, as Directors of the firm. 



Sourced from reputable manufacturers from China, Vietnam and Malaysia, these merchandise are categorised under Ready-To-Drink (RTD) Pet Bottle,

Tea base & Carbonated water, Spray & Freeze Dried soluble & instant coffee and Frozen seafood.



Mr Eugene Guo He-Jun



Mr Alan Kor Wei Lun

Congratulations!



Our heartiest
congratulations to

Seacare Group Advisor

Mr Raymond Chia Lee Meng
(PBM)

Executive Director and Group CEO
of Chip Eng Seng Corporation Ltd

on being conferred

The Public Service Star, 2022



Club@52 reopens with a bang!

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The Club@52 has fully reopened in April, following Singapore's easing Covid measures, which saw rules loosened for dining out, mask-wearing and travelling into the country.

THE NEW REGULATIONS INJECTED FRESH JOLTS of energy into Club@52 and its patrons, including new club-goers.

Operated by Seacare i-ConnecZ, Club@52 has seen bookings for private events at its lounge and conference room shoot up to pre-pandemic levels.

Catering packages and volumes also grew month-over-month since the club resumed its operation.

The Club's recent bookings include hosting AGMs, regional meetings, shipping companies' staff gatherings and social functions such as Mid-Autumn Festive Celebration for Jalan Kukoh residents. 



Celebrating Mid Autumn with Jalan Kukoh residents

Seacare Co-operative celebrated Mid-Autumn Festival with senior residents of Jalan Kukoh delivering mooncakes to the Jalan Kukoh Residents' Committee and hosting a get-together at Club@52.

CELEBRATING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL WITH RESIDENTS OF JALAN KUKOH, Seacare delivered boxes of mooncakes to the Jalan Kukoh Residents' Committee (JKRC), an initiative the co-operative never misses; and one that residents look forward to every year.

Three hundred boxes of mooncakes were presented to residents on Sep 6, 7 and 8 with help from JKRC volunteers. The residents readily gave thumbs up and posed for photos with their mooncakes.



Celebrating Mid Autumn at Club@52

Seacare Co-operative also threw a Mid-Autumn Festival get-together for senior residents at its Club@52

lounge on Sep 8. The event was supported by JKRC and like-minded volunteers from Seacare, SOS, SNCF and institutional member, Silver Horizon Travel Co-operative.

Chatting and sharing laughter with friends and neighbours, the 70 seniors enjoyed premium bento set dinners and healthy savouries served by the volunteers.

Under a canopy of colourful lanterns, they sipped tea, clapped and sang along, immersing in evergreen hits performed by celebrity entertainers.

"The event was organised with much thought and love for the very





Celebrity entertainers like Marcus Chin and Anna Lim enlivened the atmosphere cracking dialect jokes and serenading participants with timeless oldies amid thunderous applause.

The celebration was an enriching experience for first-time volunteers from SNCF and Silver Horizon Travel, as they went around tables to distribute boxes of The Seacare Hotel mooncakes to every participant to commemorate the occasion.

The smiling faces of the residents and good-bye waves at the end of the celebration rounded up a hearty Mid-Autumn celebration at Club@52 under a brightly-lit September night. **S**

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community we reside in and one close to our hearts,” said Organising Chairperson, Kathryn Ang.

“The familiar faces, warm smiles and hearty laughter bring back fond memories of our pre-Covid bonding, wonderfully encapsulating our happy vibes today,” she added.



Mooncakes for Seacare Members

ALSO CELEBRATING MID-AUTUMN AS ONE BIG Seacare family, Seacare Co-operative presented members with mooncakes to celebrate the festivity with their loved ones. Members appreciate the generosity saying gestures like these brought smiles and joy to their families. **S**



Club@52 OPENS FOR *Private Events*



OPERATION HOUR

MON – SAT

(closed on Sun/PH)

DAY EVENT 10am – 5pm
NIGHT EVENT 5.30pm – 1am

CAPACITY
up to 150 pax

FACILITIES

- 8 foot pool table
- Surround sound Karaoke system
- High stool/high table seating

PACKAGE

- Venue Rental at S\$850++ inclusive of free flow of soft drinks
- Halal catering menu available for selection
- Other beverages at bar price



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SOS EVENT / ACTIVITY FOR MEMBERS

UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOV 2022 –
MAR 2023**



**NOV
2022**

**DEEPAVALI
CELEBRATION**

**MEMBERS' NIGHT
SMART PHONE TRAINING**

**DEC
2022**



**JAN
2023**

**LUNAR NEW YEAR
CELEBRATION /**

**Hong Bao for Retired Seamen/
Long Membership Token Presentation**

**MANILA
SAILORS' PARTY
(in Philippines)**

**FEB
2023**



**MAR
2023**

MEMBERS' NIGHT

* Event/Activity titles and dates are subject to changes.

* Overseas event will subject to the country's situation and border control requirements.