6th Annual Owner and Officer Event

Uniteam Marine hosted the 6th Annual Owner and Officer Event in Yangon from the 22nd to the 26th of February, 2016. We were delighted to welcome both old friends and new faces from owner’s representatives to meet the teams of officers who manage and safeguard the owner’s assets at sea.

It sends a strong signal of commitment and it was very encouraging to see the large numbers of officers who made time during their well-earned vacations to participate and share their valuable knowledge and current experiences with the owners – who, in turn, guided the officers with the latest trends, regulations and potential areas for efficiency improvements.

A week-long programme of structured and informal meetings, workshops, presentations and social functions, provided the ideal platform to achieve the connection from which mutual understanding and respect can develop.

The agenda is very much driven by the participants, with Uniteam Marine providing a state of the art conference and training venue and acting as facilitators to ensure that maximum benefit is gained from discussions.

As always, the workshops and meetings were conducted in a spirit of openness and honesty which produced some very interesting and valuable discussions. The ideas and lessons identified enable both officers and owners to explore and develop new approaches to increasing efficiency and achieving best practice. Additionally, the event also creates informational platforms for in-house and external speakers.

This year, Uniteam Marine had the pleasure of welcoming Christian Ross of Georg Duncker Marine Insurance Brokers who spoke about “The Role of Quality Ship Operations in the Light of Favourable Insurance Markets”. Mr. Paul van Empel, Managing Director of Uniteam Training, delivered an informational presentation and brief demonstration about Teamie and ‘Escape from Desolo”; an innovative interactive serious game in which seafarers can learn behavioural safety in a fun and educational environment.

One of the highlights of the week is always the Owner and Officer Dinner. In previous years, this has been a formal event held in one of Yangon’s best hotels but this year we were delighted to be able to hold our dinner in the more relaxed surroundings of the beautiful Yangon Sailing Club. Two of Uniteam Marine’s senior chief cooks and their team members, ably supported by staff from the Savoy Hotel and Mahlzeit, provided a memorable meal which fitted perfectly with the open air lakeside location.

The positive tone of the event was reinforced by our CEO’s evening dinner address: Mr. Holger Ruether reasserted Uniteam Marine’s commitment to success and reflected that the teams on board the vessels and those in the offices are in business together and to be efficient we need to connect with one another which happens when we understand and respect each other.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with many participants considering this to be our most successful event thus far. In an increasingly difficult market, the need for absolute trust and transparency between owners and officers is more important than ever. Uniteam Marine considers activities such as the Owner and Officer Event to be of vital importance in strengthening and developing our long-term strategic partnerships with our clients and very much looks forward to hosting future events in Yangon and Odessa.

Anja Claire Lambley-Steel, Assistant to the CEO
MEETING WITH BUSS SHIPPING SEAFARERS

On the 25th of February, 2016, Buss Shipping once again utilised a great opportunity to perform a crew seminar in Yangon during the Annual Owner and Officer Event.

I held a three hour seminar with total of 15 senior/junior officers, followed by a customary lunch.

Making use of the perfect new classroom location within Uniteam Marine office premises, the seminar format followed a power point presentation comprising latest SOLAS regulations, PSC issues, Market and planning outlook as well as many internal Buss Shipping procedures.

All participants paid great attention to the topics and a positive discussion was on-going during the entire course.

This type of seminar, developed years ago, again proved a most effect means to further improve relations between our crews on board and office staff in Hamburg.

Selected internal processes covering topics like purchase of spare parts, internal reporting and accounting up to technical maintenance and planning, amongst a variety of stimulating topics, were discussed in depth and the mutual understanding was much enhanced at the end of the seminar.

After the seminar, I took the opportunity to have a few one-to-one discussions with crewmembers as well as discussing general crew planning and procedures with Uniteam Marine office staff.

Captain Tim Goettsche / Buss Shipping

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PREPAID CARD SERVICES

Uniteam Marine has reached an agreement with a provider of MasterCard pre-paid bank cards which makes the service available to qualifying Uniteam Marine crew.

The application procedure is simple; seafarers are just required to provide recent proof of address, a copy of their passport and to sign a one page document of acceptance.

Uniteam Marine is currently running a pilot scheme to issue cards to a representative number of officers and crew that express their interest in the scheme. Part or all of their monthly salary/home allotment can be added to the MasterCard for use during shore visits or cards can be provided to family members via Uniteam Marine Ukraine and Myanmar. MasterCard is a global system for financial transactions and one of the biggest providers in the world. The cards provide seafarers with easy access to their money via ATM and vendors displaying the MasterCard sign, a unique pin code is issued for private and secure use.

MasterCard allows access to over 33 Million ATM machines worldwide and is gener-ally accepted by shops and e-commerce worldwide.

Transactions with shops and electronic commerce are charged at $1.40 per transaction fee plus currency exchange commission. Cash withdrawals from ATM machines are 1.75% to a max $7 plus currency exchange.

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All internal and many external Buss Shipping procedures are charged at $1.40 per transaction.

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MasterCard pre-paid cards would be especially interesting for seafarers who do not have access to international banking facilities due to their home country banking restrictions etc.

If you are interested in joining our pilot scheme, which will be restricted to a limited number of seafarers on a first come first served basis then please send an email to: prepaidcard@unitameservices.com stating your full name, ship and rank and seaman book number.

Steve Illman, Group Finance Director

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LEAP DAY OR: OPEN DAY FOR SEAFARERS IN YANGON

Monday the 29th of February 2016 was a very special day, it was a Leap Day.

According to an old Irish legend, or possibly history, St. Patrick struck a deal with St. Brigid to allow women to propose to men – and not just the other way around – every four years. The Gregorian calendar repeats itself every 400 years, which is exactly 20,871 weeks including 97 leap days. Over this period, February 29 falls on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday 13 times each; 14 times each on Friday and Saturday; and 15 times each on Monday and Wednesday. The order of the leap days is: Thursday, Tuesday, Sunday, Friday, Wednesday, Monday, and Saturday. Not only was it a Leap Day but it was the day we held our biannual Open Day in our Uniteam Marine Myanmar Office for prospective seafarers and their families to visit us.

Following a successful marketing campaign we welcomed close to 40 officers, currently working for other companies, into our Uniteam Marine Myanmar Office to discuss sailing opportunities, whilst enjoying refreshments from our Mahlzeit restaurant. Our senior team from our global offices engages with all those present to talk about the opportunities at Uniteam Marine. We look forward to welcoming some of them into our family.

Many thanks to all those involved making this a successful day and a feature in our annual calendar.

Richard Knighton, Fleet Personnel Deputy Director

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FLOOD DONATION – AN UPDATE

The severe flooding at Komen which occurred in July 2015 in Myanmar was a natural disaster destroying life and the livelihoods of millions of people, especially in rural areas.

Uniteam Marine and Myanmar Development Aid e.V. (MDA) used generous donations from on-board and ashore to give effective, practical help to those in need.

The donations were used for a project in the Ayarwaddy region where both the Ayarwaddy and Pathein Rivers exceeded danger levels in the Hinthada District.

The donations were handed over by our Myanmar Office Director Fleet Personnel, Captain Than To. “It was impressive to see how many colleagues ashore and from on-board, crew and officers, were collecting money for the flood victims and provided humanitarian aid to help those less fortunate”.

The funds received contributed to the rebuilding of a primary school in Myinn Chaung village, Pathein Town, where the whole town had to be rebuilt. The school’s opening ceremony in Pathein took place on the 29th of January, 2016. Four classrooms will be used by 200 children. Furniture and stationary item costs will also be covered by the donations received.

Anja Frauboese, Corporate Communications & Marketing Manager
SAFETY THOUGHTS: HAND AND FINGERS

We use our hands in almost every physical task we perform both at work and in our domestic lives: grasping, probing, pushing, pulling, lifting, carrying and holding. Our hands and fingers are central to our sense of touch.

Because of their great versatility, our hands are exposed to, and susceptible to, a wide range of injuries. These include sprains, burns, skin irritations, vibration white finger, “de-gloving injuries”, punctures, lacerations, fractures and crushing injuries.

Studies of workplace injuries carried out in Europe, Australia and the USA suggest that as many as 38% of all injuries sustained at work involve hands or fingers. Approximately 75% of industrial injuries in the USA which resulted in partial or full loss of a hand, with the material being worked on is properly secured and not held in the hand

7. When using drills, lathes and cutting machinery always ensure that the material being worked on is properly secured and not held in the hand

8. Protect your skin from harmful substances – use gloves or barrier creams – and read the safety data sheet before handling chemicals

9. Wash and dry your hands thoroughly after coming into contact with, and susceptible to, a wide range of injuries. These include sprains, burns, skin irritations, vibration white finger, “de-gloving injuries”, punctures, lacerations, fractures and crushing injuries.

10. Take great care with doors and hatches, particularly in rough weather

11. Always store knives and sharp tools correctly when not in use

12. Never wear rings whilst working on-board – even a ring that fits

13. Ensure power tools are in good condition and that the right tool is used for each job. Change your grip from time to time and take frequent breaks to avoid vibration “White Finger”.

REMEMBER: Your safety is in your hands, don’t just cross your fingers and hope for the best!

Peter Chilman, OSE Manager

COOKING CLASSES: THE RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

In January, Uniteam Training ran a pilot course covering Galley Hygiene and Ship Cook Upskilling.

Partnered with ‘Secrets De Cuisine’ from Antibes, France, Chef Cedric Seguela and his Senior Instructor Duncan Biggs blended in a one Day Module on Galley Hygiene at City & Guilds Level 2 Standard, with two days preparation and two days assessment of individual cook’s performances to UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA) standards.

The lucky attendees were ships’ cooks drawn from our own pool.

A total of ten cooks attended the Pilot Course which was run in Uniteam Training classrooms and also the ‘Mahzeit’ Restaurant kitchens.

The Hygiene Course lasts one day and reminds candidates of the importance of controlling temperatures when storing, cooking and re-heating food. It is so easy to leave food at the wrong temperature where bacteria can quickly multiply and cause severe gastric illness in the whole crew who eats it. Cooks and messmen also learn the importance of pest control, correct storage conditions, cleanliness, garbage disposal and food stock rotation.

At worst food poisoning can be fatal! That means of course that the heating and cooling refrigeration and freezing equipment must also be in good working order which is an engineering responsibility. The galley team must work with the engineering team to ensure safe food conditions.

The Ship Cook Upskilling Course covers menu planning, ingredient choice and presentation, the making of soups, main dishes of local and western varieties, pastry and cakes and, of course, sweet desserts. Duncan advised on techniques for pastry making.

The Ship Cook Upskilling Course gives candidates two days of preparation practice and theory in the choice of ingredients and the creation of menus for a multi-national crew. Then candidates face two days of menu creation, ingredient selection and food preparation before the best part (for me!) takes place: the TASTING!

Cedric Seguela noted his assessments of the food taste, ingredients, and presentation. Each cook submitted starters, mains, sweets and pastries.

The recipe worked!

The successful candidates received a City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Hygiene, and Ship’s Cook Certificate accredited by MCA.

Douglas Smith, Training Director, Uniteam Training

UNITEAM MARINE CYPRUS PARTICIPATES IN LOCAL MARATHON

The 10th Limassol Marathon organised by OPAP (Organisation of Football Prognosis), GSO (Gymnastics Sports Organisation) and Karaiskakio Foundation (a non – profit organization assisting patients with haematological malignancies and maintaining a Bone Marrow Registry) took place on Sunday 10th of April, 2016. The official patron of the Marathon was the Cyprus Tourism Organisation.

The President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr Nicos Anastasiades, welcomed the volunteers and fired the starter pistol. The event was a great success, with 13,000 runners from 52 countries participating.

Part of the Limassol Marathon is always the five km corporate race. This year more than 5,000 runners from over 150 companies located all over Cyprus joined this unique event.

The experience was exceptional, there was a festive atmosphere during the entire day with many varied events taking place including music and dance. Naturally, our Uniteam Marine

Cypriot employees could not miss the fun! We are very proud to report that our team consisted of 39 energetic and spirited runners eager to run the marathon for a common cause.

We are already looking forward to the next Marathon in 2017!

Chariclia Nicolaidou, Administration Operator
VISITING UNITEAM TRAINING IN THANLYIN

20TH JANUARY 2016

Uniteam Training's second training site is located at Thanlyin, which lies across the Bago River about 45 minutes' drive from downtown Yangon. After passing through narrow lanes and village houses it comes as a surprise to see such a large compound of training facilities, with a row of company buses neatly parked beside the main workshop. Ms Anja Frauboese and I were greeted by Mr. Moë Zaw Aung, Section Lead (Welding & Machine) and Ms. Zar Zar Lwin, Administrative Officer; they took us around to see the modern welding facilities, where Delegates were honing their skills on different welding processes, closely supervised by experienced welding instructors.

Uniteam Training operates a world class welding simulator where Delegates can practice all kinds of welding processes in a safe environment without the need for lengthy preparation of materials. All new students are trained on the simulator before undertaking “real” welding tasks and this allows them to learn quickly and safely without the use of costly materials. Another advantage of the simulator is that Delegates can see the results of their welding immediately after the process is completed. They can see faults in alignment and the quality of the welded material in detail so they can immediately learn and amend their technique accordingly.

The welding curriculum of Uniteam Training is certified by the American Welding Society (AWS), and courses are available for Uniteam seafarers and third parties.

Adjacent to the Welding & Machine Workshop is the Engine Workshop, where Mr. Lwin Oo, Section Lead (Engine) and his team conduct various trainings for Engine Room personnel. At their disposal are Instrument- and Electrical labs, and materials. Another advantage of the simulator is that Delegates can see the results of their welding immediately after the process is completed. They can see faults in alignment and the quality of the welded material in detail so they can immediately learn and amend their technique accordingly.

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Arguably the most spectacular installation of Uniteam Training in Thanlyin is the state of the art live fire training centre, known as the Advanced Fire Fighting Facility (AFFF). The AFFF is located in a far corner of the compound where a number of red-painted containers are situated, together with stairs, handrails and safety signs to simulate conditions found onboard ship and offshore platforms. There we witnessed a very realistic “search and rescue” exercise performed by Delegates from an international oil company, closely monitored by Mr. Min Lyat Chan, Section Lead (Oil & Gas) and his team of fire-fighter instructors. The Delegates had to recover a dummy casualty from a stack of containers, experiencing a backdraft situation while entering, and a flashover fire inside the container filled with thick smoke. Safety of the Delegates always takes priority, and despite the highly realistic nature of the training, all exercises are completely safe. All fires and smoke generation are controlled by the Supervisor with an application installed on a computer tablet, and in case of an emergency, Delegates and Instructors can also end the exercise by pressing the Emergency Stop buttons fitted in all the containers.

It was a unique experience for us in this remote village of Thanlyin and we enjoyed every second of it. There is no doubt that Delegates, both first timers and “old hands” will find the training facilities at Thanlyin a great place to broaden their experience and hone their professional skills in an environment that is safe, yet challenging, demanding and enjoyable.

Pyi Phyo Minn, PR & Corporate Communications Coordinator

PORTRAIT OF MIN LYAT CHAN, UNITEAM TRAINING SECTION LEAD OIL & GAS AND INDUSTRIAL

What are your main tasks?
I work here as Section Lead and an Internal Verifier (IV). My tasks include:
• Verifying the Assessors’/Instructors’
• Supporting and coaching the Assessors/Instructors
• Developing new courses
• Coordination with External Verifiers (OPIT)
• Training of the new Instructors
• Run the OGI Section in accordance with U7 policies and procedures

The firefighting training at Thanlyin is very impressive. What makes this training so special?
I think our highly qualified instructors, superb training equipment and first class facilities for firefighting in Thanlyin impress people – staff, students and visitors alike.

What are the main skills you need as firefighter and instructor at Uniteam Training?
As a firefighter Instructor, having the relevant experience is essential: you must have a passion for teaching, and be patient with your Delegates all the time. In addition one must be prepared to use initiative, and it is most important to have a good plan to ensure training goes safely and smoothly.

There are various types of fires – is there any fire which is more dangerous than others?
Among the different types of fires, I would say a Flashover is probably the most dangerous fire because it is difficult to predict where and when it will occur.

What are the main Do’s and Don’ts when you discover a fire onboard a vessel?

Do’s when discover fire on-board:
• Raise the alarm
• Establish communications with the Bridge
• Identify the severity and location of fire
• Identify the class of fire
• Follow Station Bill procedures
• Emergency Response Plan onboard must be followed

Don’ts:
• Do NOT try to be a hero – Never attempt to fight the fire alone
• Never extinguish the fire with wrong extinguishing agent
• Never rescue a casualty without proper PPE, such as BA.

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COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

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marketing@uniteamservices.com

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UNITEAM MARINE NEWS is designed to be of interest to our crew and to keep all Uniteam Marine employees informed of developments at our company. We appreciate your feedback and welcome any articles of interest or humour that you would like us to include in our publication.

Please send your feedback, articles, pictures & videos for the photo & video competition to Corporate Communications & Marketing at Uniteam Marine, Anja Frauboese, marketing@uniteamservices.com