



UNITEAM NEWS

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out basic Crew Management functions.

With our head office in Cyprus and the support of our offices in Myanmar, Lithuania and Germany we are increasing the range of our activities and we are able to fulfil our principal objective, to offer the best services to our clients.

Living in a Multinational Community

Living in a multinational community can create situations that test our emotions. We are all equipped with emotions and also with the wisdom and means to hold those emotions in check. Checking the emotions does not mean that the positive ones are not enjoyed. It means only that the negative ones are not allowed to control us.

Chairman's Statement

The New Millennium has seen recent changes at Uniteam. Our Office in Hamburg commenced operating to serve our Clients directly and complies fully with the requirements of the new Tonnage Tax Laws in Germany.

Following the introduction of these tax laws, one of our Clients has decided to manage themselves the Officers on board their vessels and we are continuing our discussions with them. This arrangement does not affect our business, which we are pleased is steadily expanding as we planned, with more new vessels to come under our management.

Of course, all the efforts and hard work from our Officers and crew as well as the office personnel, which has earned us our good name with our satisfied Clients, will have to be maintained. In doing so, we feel confident for the future. We have always been proud of the professionalism of our seamen and we believe that our success will increase further and our crew may also look forward, sharing with us this period of change, development and future growth.

G. Ruether

Uniteam office in Hamburg

Our new company in Hamburg, Uniteam Marine Shipping GmbH, has been established and its office is already fully operating. The company was incorporated following the demand from our clients and also because of the new German Tonnage Tax Regulations.

Uniteam Hamburg provides a closer link between our crew, our clients and our company. It is responsible for the recruitment and employment of Deck and Engine Officers and carries



Mr S. Stemmler and Mr P. Merkel

Positive emotions generate a sense of well being and team spirit, whereas negative emotions are easily read and generate division amongst a team, leading to inefficiency, distrust, depression and many other negative reactions, which are not conducive in any type of relationship. More so on board a vessel. We live in an international community and it must be remembered that when we go on board it is like going to live abroad. There are different cultures to consider and the life is very much different. Whilst we do our best to ensure that there are aspects to life that accommodate each cultural background on board, we must also be able to accommodate other cultures.

Things are not always what we are used to or how we expect them to be and this will generate quite a few occasions for irritation or frustration. When it happens, the easiest thing to do is give way to our temper. But think what we can gain by that. Releasing our temper is not going to make someone more willing or more efficient or speedy, but rather the reverse. We should think of what we are going to do not only for the consideration of others, but also because it does little to enhance our own image when we do lose our temper.

A tone of voice indicates a person's mood. A loud fuming voice indicates anger and turns people away, whereas a calm voice indicates that a person is well in control, educated and aware of how to resolve a situation. A polite but firm tone smoothens relationships and motivates people.

Finally, it is worth remembering that in the Myanmar culture pride is very important, so if a reprimand or a discussion relating to matters that you are not pleased with is deemed necessary, please do not conduct such a discussion in the presence of other people. This is not only worth remembering in relationships between non-Myanmar crew and Myanmar crew, but a practice that may be used in general.

Uniteam Christmas Party

The Uniteam Cyprus Office annual Christmas party was held at Paphos on 18th December 1999. Before the evening's traditional dinner commenced, there was a surprise gathering of all the management and personnel. Mr and Mrs Ruether presented each individual employee who has been working in the office for more than 20 and 10 years, with a beautiful gift of a watch.

Mr Ruether warmly thanked them for their dedicated hard work and achievements over these years.

The following personnel were awarded :

For more than 20 years: Soterios Karantonis, Evanthis Aristidou, Eleonora Maltezou.

For more than 10 years: George Constantinou, Louise Kokkinofta, Xanthe Christodoulou.



Mr G. Ruether presenting the award to Miss E. Maltezou

Similarly, at the beginning of December 1999, during Uniteam Yangon Office celebrations, Mr and Mrs Ruether presented a watch to

John Hla Tin

for also having worked at the Uniteam office for well over 10 years. Mr Ruether heartily thanked him for his loyalty to our company and for all his valuable hard work during these past years.

Each occasion was very special and for those Uniteam office personnel who were awarded, it will remain a memorable one.

Parties Onboard



Christmas party on the M/V Sea Master

In addition to the every day work schedule on board a good social life is also important. Above are photographs sent to the office of the Christmas party on the M/V Sea Master and on next page the Birthday Party of J/E Myo Min Thant on the M/V Crowley Lion.



Birthday party on M/V Crowley Lion

MV CSAV Atlanta - Liberian Inspection

On the 2nd February 2000 the M/V CSAV Atlanta underwent a Liberian Safety Inspection the result of which was announced on the 28th of February 2000.

The Republic of Liberia Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs issued a report stating that the vessel was found to be in full compliance with all applicable provisions of the Maritime Law and Regulations as well as with all accepted navigational and operational safety standards.

The Surveyor congratulated the crew and the owners of the vessel for their professional dedication to the practice of good seamanship and for the concentrated efforts in maintaining the highest standard of safety on board.

From our side we take this opportunity to add our own congratulations to the crew of the M/V CSAV Atlanta in recognition of their efforts to meet the highest Safety

P&I news

Alert to crewmembers - Puffer fishes (blow fish, fugu)



The species of puffer fish involved in this incident

Recently a vessel called at the port of Geraldton in Western Australia to pick up some spare parts. Whilst the ship was at anchor some crewmembers passed their time fishing from the aft deck. One crewmember barbecued his catch. He and three other crewmembers then ate the fish. Soon after the fisherman started feeling unwell. His condition rapidly deteriorated and an

ambulance was called. Unfortunately, the crewmember died before he reached the hospital. Although the final toxicology report is still not available the crewmember had the classical symptoms of puffer poisoning and there appears to be no doubt that he died as a result of having ingested this poisonous fish. His colleagues had not eaten meat from the poisonous part of the fish and did not get ill.

There are more than one hundred species of the pufferfish. Their common name derives from their ability to inflate themselves by taking in large quantities of air or water.

They are chiefly tropical or sub-tropical and live all around Australia and Far East countries. The toxin is concentrated mainly in the liver and the intestines. Because of their unappetising appearance, the fish are usually considered inedible in Australia. However, in some Asian countries they are considered a delicacy and special restaurants are licensed to cook the fish. In Japan, where the fish is called fugu, there are about 50 cases of poisoning reported every year with a 60 per cent death rate. (The fish depicted in the photo is of the same species as the one involved in our case, however, the colour, shape and size vary from species to species).

Symptoms : Depending on the amount of toxins ingested, the onset of symptoms is usually within 10 - 45 minutes. Death occurs as rapidly as 17 minutes after ingestion but is usually within 6 - 24 hours. The typical symptoms in order of appearance are :

- numbness around the mouth within 5 - 45 minutes ;
- early paralysis, lack of co-ordination and slurring of speech 10 - 60 minutes ;
- widespread paralysis, difficulty breathing, but conscious 15 minutes to several hours ;
- severe paralysis with cessation of breathing 15 minutes to 24 hours.

Symptoms generally resolve over 24 — 72 hours and there are no other effects if the patient survives the respiratory paralysis.

First Aid : There is no antidote to the poison. Decontamination of the toxin in the stomach with activated charcoal suspension is recommended (50g for an adult). Activated charcoal should be carried on all vessels as it absorbs a wide range of poisons which may be taken accidentally or deliberately. The patient should be encouraged to vomit in an effort to remove much of the poison.

Because death is due to the paralysis of the muscles responsible for breathing, artificial respiration is the treatment of choice. In the field, this may be achieved with mouth to mouth resuscitation. This may keep the patient alive for many hours.

Health, Safety & Environmental Awareness Award



The Health, Safety and Environmental Protection Award introduced to recognise the efforts and attention given by our crew for safeguarding the environment and ensuring the good health and safety of their colleagues, has so far been issued to 4 persons.

In the last 3 months no new individual candidates have been proposed to receive the Certificate. However the entire crew of the M/V Cho Yang Honour have been awarded the Health, Safety & Environmental Awareness Award, for their high level of responsibility, professional ability, motivation and courage shown in extremely adverse weather conditions.

Positive feedback is received continually from our vessels on their endeavours to ensure that a Healthy, Safe and Environmentally friendly culture is maintained. From the M/V Leony for example, we received a remark that the Ship's motto is "We don't have human spare parts yet – Please be careful". We thank all our crew for the efforts that they are making to cultivate the "Safety First" manner of thinking on board.

Suggestions Column

"Uniteam News" is designed for the interest and the education of our crew and to keep all Uniteam employees informed of the developments within our company. We would appreciate and welcome with pleasure your feedback and any articles of interest, or humour that you would like us to include within our next editions.

Words of Wisdom

- Intellect is invisible to the man who has none.
- Be wiser than other people if you can, but do not tell them so.
- The original writer is not one who imitates nobody, but one whom nobody can imitate.

- There is no worse lie than a truth misunderstood by those who hear it.
- The ignorant man always adores what he cannot understand.

Humour

A woman was out golfing one day when she hit her ball into the woods. She went into the woods to look for it and found a frog in a trap.

The frog said to her, "If you release me from this trap, I will grant you three wishes."

The woman freed the frog and the frog said, "Thank you, but I failed to mention that there was a condition to your wishes – that whatever you wish for, your husband will get 10 times more or better!"

The woman said, "That would be okay," and for the first wish, she wanted to become the most beautiful woman in the world.

The frog warned her, "You do realise that this wish will also make your husband the most handsome man in the world, an Adonis, that other women will flock to."

The woman replied, "That will be okay because I will be the most beautiful woman and he will only have eyes for me."

So, KAZAM – she's the most beautiful woman in the world!

For her second wish, she wanted to be the richest woman in the world. The frog said, "That will make your husband the richest man in the world and he will be ten times richer than you." The woman said, "That will be okay because mine is his and his is mine."

So, KAZAM she's the richest woman in the world!

The frog then inquired again for her third wish, and she answered, "My third wish is much simpler! I'd like a mild heart attack."

Conversation with God

A man was wandering around in a field, thinking about how good his wife had been to him, and how fortunate he was to have her.

He asked God, "Why did you make her so kind hearted?"

The Lord responded, "So you could love her, my son."

"Why did you make her so good looking?"

"So you could love her, my son."

"Why did you make her such a good cook?"

"So you could love her, my son."

The man thought about this. Then he said, "I don't mean to seem ungrateful or anything, but why did you make her so stupid?"

"So she could love you, my son."



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284-286 Makarios Avenue
P.O. Box 54086
CY-3720 Limassol – Cyprus

Tel: + 357 5 846100
Fax: + 357 5 581706
Tlx 2848 UTEAM CY

E-mail : shipman@uniteammarine.com
Operations / Administration 846-203 Technical 846-250
Fleet Personnel 846-220 Accounts 846-205