

Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System
U.S. Coast Guard



Press Release

Date: June 6, 2007

Contact: Benjamin Strong
benjamin.m.strong@uscg.mil
(212) 668-7762
Photos available upon request

INTERNATIONAL AMVER RESCUE OPERATION SAVES THREE SAILORS

NEW YORK – On May 25, 2007, Rescue Coordination Center Bermuda notified the United States Coast Guard that an Amver participating merchant vessel, the Mighty Servant I, had located a 27 foot sailboat adrift approximately 350 miles south of Bermuda.

The Mighty Servant I, a 623 foot open deck heavy transport carrier, was battling 25 knot winds and 10 foot seas in an attempt to rescue the three people aboard the sailboat. After maneuvering the ship to provide a lee, the master of the Mighty Servant I ordered a small boat lowered. The three survivors were safely rescued.

The Italian sailors had set out from La Romana, Dominican Republic headed to the Azores when they suffered engine and rigging malfunctions. Fortunately the Mighty Servant I encountered the men. They had no EPRIB or electronic means to notify authorities of their distress.

According to the master of the Mighty Servant I the three men "... were in good health" and were most likely being transported aboard the merchant ship to its next port of call in Texas.

The Amver system is a voluntary, worldwide ship reporting system. Prior to sailing, participating ships send a sail plan to the Amver computer center. Vessels then report every 48 hours until arriving at their port of call. This data is able to project the position of each ship at any point during its voyage. In an emergency, any rescue coordination center can request this data to determine the relative position of Amver ships near the distress location. On any given day there are over 3,000 ships available to carry out search and rescue services. Visit <http://www.amver.com> to learn more about this unique worldwide search and rescue system.

###