



The Amver Bulletin

I-08

Winter 2008

Special points of interest:

- *Amver travels to China*
- *Amver Rescues*
- *SURPIC requests easier for RCCs*
- *New Amver participants*

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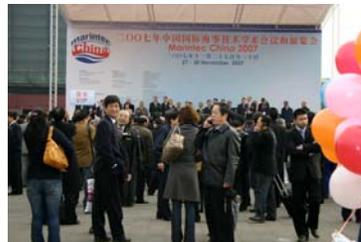
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Amver participates in Marintec

The Amver staff made their way to Shanghai, China to participate in the 2007 Marintec Maritime Exhibition in December, 2007.

Interest in Amver was evident by the constant stream of delegates, maritime professionals, and maritime academy students to the Amver stand.

Additionally, the Amver staff attended several networking functions sponsored by the United States Commercial Ser-



vice and the United States Consul General.

An enthusiastic group of Shanghai Maritime Academy students (above right) enjoyed meeting Amver staff and sharing stories of learning about the system sponsored by the United States Coast Guard.

In addition to attending the Marintec exhibition the Amver staff traveled to Beijing to discuss increased participation by COSCO, China's largest



shipping company.

An increase in participation by the COSCO fleet would have a positive effect on the Amver system and increase the number of vessels available to assist mariners in distress.

Photo credit: Beverly Howard

Amver partners with the Empire State Building

What's that in the sky? It's a bird, it a plane, no; the Empire State Building has agreed to change its lights to the Amver scheme; blue—white—blue on July 16, 2008 to mark the 50th anniversary of the world-wide

search and rescue scheme.

If you are in New York City that evening make sure you look towards the midtown skyline to see a wonderful tribute to the Amver system.



Amver introduces web based SURPIC request

The United States Coast Guard Amver system has just made the job of search and rescue easier for the entire world. Today, rescue coordination centers around the world can quickly contact the United States Coast Guard and learn what Amver participating commercial vessels may be near a distress position anywhere in the world.

Search and rescue coordinators simply enter some basic information about the distress such as location, type of distress, and contact information. The request is sent to the United States Coast Guard Atlantic Area Command Center and quickly

processed. United States Coast Guard personnel confirm the requester is a legitimate rescue coord-



ination center and immediately sends a list of Amver vessels nearest the distress location.

While this service has been available for many years there has never been a real time method for search and rescue personnel to request it from the United States Coast Guard.

“This unique approach will undoubtedly add another tool for the search and rescue controller and lead to more lives saved at sea” stated Captain Christopher Hall, Chief of Search and Rescue for the United States Coast Guard. “I hope the international community will take advantage of this feature and make it part of their standard operating procedures” he added.

Amver vessel rescues sailor 230 miles from Maui

A 43 year old Wailuku man was rescued by the Amver participating merchant ship CS Victory after his 30 foot sailing vessel began taking on water 230 miles off the coast of Maui December 13.

The sailor notified United States Coast Guard rescue coordinators and activated his 406 MHz emergency beacon after the starboard

bow broke off and the center hull began taking on water.

In a multi agency response, the United States Coast Guard diverted a U.S. Navy P-3 Orion along with the USCG Cutter Galveston to assist. It was the 585 foot Panamanian flagged merchant ship CS Victory, however, that arrived on scene and rescued the Hawaiian sailor.

The CS Victory was approximately four hours away from the distress position.

Captain Toshiyuki Fukuhara, master of the CS Victory, braved 20 knot winds to coordinate the rescue operations. Within six hours of the initial notification Captain Fukuhara had the survivor safely on board this ship.

M/V Patagonia receives 2007 AFRAS award

Mr. Benjamin Strong received the prestigious Association for Rescue at Sea Amver award on behalf of the M/V Patagonia during the October, 2007 AFRAS ceremony in Washington, DC.

The Patagonia came to the rescue of the M/V Dayana which sank 115

miles off the coast of Columbia.

The Patagonia directed two other merchant vessels, provided communications to the United States Coast Guard, and rescued six Dayana crewmembers.

Photo credit: USCG



Amver tanker rescues 5 from sailboat

Five men on a voyage from Bermuda to Cruz Bay, St. John's suffered a rudder casualty on their sailboat and were rescued by the Amver participating tanker Atlantic Prosperity approximately 195 nautical miles north of St. Thomas.

The men were aboard the sailing vessel Epiphany, sailing from Bermuda to St. John's when they suffered the rudder malfunction. As weather conditions began to deteriorate the master of the Epiphany activated his emergency beacon and was contacted by U.S. Coast Guard personnel. The Coast Guard immediately diverted the Atlantic Prosperity, a

Panamanian flagged tanker, 70 miles from its course to rescue the sailors.



The master of the Atlantic Prosperity, despite 30 knot winds and 10 foot seas, quickly embarked the crew of

the Epiphany. The survivors were taken to San Juan, Puerto Rico .

"We are very pleased with our master and crew's professional rescue operation which rescued five sailors from the distressed sailing boat safely under difficult sea conditions" stated Yoshikazu Hirose, spokesperson for the Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, owner of the Atlantic Prosperity.

"The tanker crew was very accommodating" said the crew of the Epiphany "We are very appreciative of the work the tanker and U.S. Coast Guard to coordinate our rescue" they added.

Photo credit: M/V Atlantic Prosperity

Dead in the water; Amver ships assist disabled vessel

Three Amver ships diverted to assist the 330-foot container ship Agaman which has been dead in the water in 10-foot to 15-foot seas approximately 88 miles southeast of Nantucket.

The Agaman was on a voyage from Canada to Cuba when contamination fouled its fuel supply and seized its engines and generators.

Its crew had limited power to operate their radios, no heat and dwindling food stores. According to Captain Karavidas Georgios, the Aegeas's master, "the crew of the Agaman did not have enough food to last the voyage and were keeping warm by wearing extra clothes and tending a fire on the poop deck." There were no reports of injuries.

The 524-foot bulk carrier Dual Confidence's crew immediately diverted to render assistance. They were relieved by the 598-foot Greek-flagged tanker Aegeas, which recently departed Montreal, Canada.

The Aegeas arrived alongside the stricken ship and provided necessary communications to Coast Guard officials.

Amver staff visits Shanghai Maritime Safety Administration

During a recent visit to China, Amver's Benjamin Strong, Marketing Director, toured the Shanghai Maritime Safety Administration's facility.



The highlight of the tour was a demonstration of the Chinese Ship Reporting System which is the People's Republic of China's regional version of Amver.

In addition to the tour Amver and Shanghai MSA representatives discussed ways to improve communications and information sharing between the two agencies.

Photo credit: Benjamin Strong

Welcome new Amver participants enrolled between October and December 2007

IVS KINGBIRD	LNG BORN	MSC CAROUGE
BOW LIMA	CALAPADRIA	OPERA WHITE
MOL EXPEDITOR	NORD PEGASUS	DUBAI GALACTIC
MAERSK BROWNSVILLE	DESERT HARMONY	NORWEGIAN GEM
MAERSK FALMOUTH	DESERT SYMPHONY	KOYO MARU
STOLT VALOR	MORNING CELLO	CAP BYRON
SEVEN OCEANS	STELLA MARIS	SEAPACIS
VLISTDIEP	DESERT RHAPSODY	AL MARWAH
FORTUNE VICTORY	ELEGANT SKY	D ELEPHANT
CLIPPER KITTY	KAPITAN MORGUN	MARE ITALICUM
MOL PROFICIENCY	SOFRANA SURVILLE	KRONBORG
PELOPIDAS	PACIFIC WIND	GREEN BAY
FAIRPLAY II	CASTILLO DE CATOIRA	PORT ALICE
BELEM	THERMIDOR	PORT MENIER
MSC BENEDETTA	SANTA ELENA	JAG PREPANA
BUNGA KEKARAS	FENG QIAN	HELLAS ENDURANCE
GRAND RACE	HYUNDAI SPRINTER	VADM K.R. WHEELER
CLIPPER TEXAN	CSAV RIO NEVADO	CN BIG RED
SAM M TAALAK	GENERAL RADZIYEVSKIY	NILEDUTH ASIA
SPT CONQUEROR	MAERSK BUFFALO	WAKATORI MARU
NORD BELL	NOBLE HAWK	WESTERN SPIRIT
CMA CGM STRAUSS	ICE TRANSPORTER	MADEIRA
HAKUO MARU	MAERSK VALUE	SICHEM MARSEILLE
SRTM-8483	BELUGA ENERGY	CAPTAIN ADAMS
ESTEEM GRANDEUR	SEACOR ACCLAIM	CHRISTOPH SCHULTE
ALEKSEY KOSYGIN	NS LAGUNA	ANNA MARIA
YONG XING ZHOU	POLLUX	MOL ENDOWMENT
CORAL TOPAZ	TXORI	MAERSK SAIGON

Welcome new Amver participants enrolled between October and December 2007

TRUST INTEGRITY	BELUGA ENDEAVOR	HYUNDAI TOKYO
GECO EMERALD	EL ZORRO	UNITED CARRIER
COS ORCHID	ASGARD II	CLIPPER KATJA
POSEIDON LEADER	IOS JUMBO	TRITON OSPREY
TORERO	GLORIA	NDS PRINCESS
HYUNDAI FUTURE	EOLE	TORM METTE
SATHA BHUM	OCEAN BREEZE	SOLEA
MATSUMAE	SICHEM MELBOURNE	IMPERIAL
THOR INGEBORG	ZIM INDIA	BUNGO SPIRIT
ISKMATI SPIRIT	YUAN HUI HAI	CAPE FLAMINGO
SAGA NAVIGATOR	SICHEM BEIJING	MISS MARINA
BOUNTY	CEMTEX ORIENT	SKS SPEY
COASTAL RENAISSANCE	AZALEA ISLAND	BW PRINCE
EVER SAFETY	SWIFT SPINDRIFT	BANWARI PREM
ORIENT PHOENIX	CARIBOU	NYK CONSTELLATION
KARAWEIK	ORANGE RIVER BRIDGE	PACIFIC DELIGHT
SUN VENUS	MAERSK DAVAO	APHRODITE I
RIO GENOA	PROVIDANA	SERI ANGKASA
FIDELIO	OSC PASSAT	AEGEAN BLUE
NUNGA KASTURI LIMA	VIKING VISION	OWARI MARU
HYUNDAI ADMIRAL	AL RUWAIS	OVERSEAS LOS ANGELES
CSAV RAHUE	GRANOSA	STAR PRIMA
CAPE DAISY	MARYLISA V	NORD PHOENIX
BEIJING 2008	JIN LI	WAFRAH
DL COSMOS	BALTIC MARINER	NINOS
GRACE VICTORIA	FLINTERWAVE	DANUBEGAS
SPIKE	BAVARIA EXPRESS	CHALLENGE PEGASUS
TORM VENTURE	APL BOGATA	VALLE BIANCA

Welcome new Amver participants enrolled between October and December 2007

SC LAURA	TOUR	CASTEL DELL OVO
TROMSO TRUST	TORM MARINA	APL COLIMA
NORMED AMSTERDAM	LEO ADVANCE	HOEGH MANULA
SWALLOW ACE	FLANDERS LIBERTY	CAPE BASTIA
GOLDEN KIJI	COSCO NAPOLI	GLORY
CMA CGM TARPON	HAO YUE	OOCL DUBAI
ARAPAHO BELLE	HOUYO	SC GUOJI
SHIN SANYO MARU	APL AUSTRIA	SEYCHELLES PRELUDE
ARIS T	LYCAITOS	SVITZER FORTI
YN SHANGHAI	KUO HSIUNG	AL GATTARA
BUNGA KELANA 10	KOHZAN MARU V	METHANE NILE EAGLE
BW ORINOCO	CORAL SEAS	LADY GIOVI
RM PIONEER	VALENTE ANGEL	YASA ILHAN
TENKI	SITEAM ADVENTURER	BOSON
STOLT PONDO	YM VANCOUVER	JIN YING
MSC DEHLI	KENT	GENCO TITUS
DELMAS SWALA	LONDON SPIRIT	LADY MARIA LUISA
PIONIER	MIMI SELMER	GINGA PANTHER
VINASHIN GLORY	NYK VIRGO	STAR KAPPA
CIELO DI AMALFI	CAS AL NEGEH	PRO GRACE
DOLCE	HARLEQUIN	SAM LAUD
LONDON 2012	SUNNY ACE	PRETTY JEWELRY
OREGON HIGHWAY	SIDARI	SANKO HARMONY
GINGA COUGAR	ATLANTIC WIND	IRAN BAHONAR
LYCIAN	ALTEREGO II	ECSTASEA
NYK NEBULA	MSC LAURA	CSAV TIANJIN
HAVILA HARMONY	GOLDEN SEAS	CMA CGM PURPLE
CIELO DI MILANO	JULY M	WESTBAY

Welcome new Amver participants enrolled between October and December 2007

SVITZER BRANI	ALLIANCE NORFOLK
FEDERAL ELBER	EASTERN GRACE
KRISHNAVENI	RESOLVE
BAO SHAN	LIBERTAS
THERESA MEDITERRANEAN	CLIPPER KLARA
FREE BULKERS	UNITED BANNER
OCEAN CYGNUS	ROYAL PERIDOT
COSTA MEDITERRANEA	GOLDEN NORI
INDIGO POINT	GOLDEN MERMAID
MAERSK PENGUIN	CASTILLO DE MACEDA
CSC PEACE	GLOBETROTTER
GULMAR CONDOR	HOLY LIGHT
NEPTUNE DISCOVERY	CAPTAIN P. EGGLEZOS
SAFMARINE MAKUTU	CANCALE STAR
MCT BREITHORN	GEORGIA HIGHWAY
ST. CRISPAN	GL PRIMERA
FR8 ENDURANCE	SILVER WHISPER
DR. FRIDT JOF NANSEN	
SAGAR NIDHI	
GAS SOPHIE	
YACHT EXPRESS	
GOLDEN DOMINIQUE	
BAHIA NEGRA	
VISTAMAR	
ATLANTIC BURNET	
CMA CGM ESPERANZA	
GREEN ISLAND	
HELLESPONT PROVIDENCE	

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Visit us on the web at
www.amver.com

Amver, sponsored by the United States Coast Guard, is a unique computer based, voluntary ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities to arrange for assistance to persons in distress at sea. With Amver, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best suited ship to respond.

Amver's mission is to quickly provide search and rescue authorities, on demand, accurate information on the positions and characteristics of vessels near a reported distress.

Notes from New York



The new year is upon us and with it brings the beginning of a year long celebration of Amver's 50th Anniversary.

It's amazing looking back at how far Amver has progressed over the last 50 years. From Atlantic crossings to global ocean coverage. From Morse code to satellite communications and the internet. Amver has seen considerable growth in shipping and technology.

July 18, 2008 marks Amver's actual anniversary and we have several exciting events planned to mark the occasion. Stay tuned to our website, subscribe to the RSS feed, and watch for updates in the Amver bulletin for some of the things we have planned and ways to get involved.

One exciting event we have planned is the lighting of the Empire State Building in the Amver colors; blue—white—blue. If you are in New York City on Wednesday July 16 look up at this historic landmark and know those colors are in celebration of Amver's 50th anniversary.

As always we invite former shipmates, seafarers, and survivors to share their stories with us. Nothing helps to tell a story better than a

veteran of the program.

In other news I am excited to report there was an almost 50% increase in Web site hits in 2007. It seems more and more people are accessing Amver.com. As broadband access becomes more available on ships I hope more and more of you begin to access the amver Web site while at sea.

January also means the award numbers are also out for the previous year. 2007 saw another record year for Amver awardees with over 5,200 ships earning participation awards. I hope this trend continues and encourage vessels to continue reporting to ensure eligibility for their awards.