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*Could you fish some fishes in this edition?  
 If you have spotted a fish or more, tell us  
 and we have a prize for the first few*



Fog Horn is an initiative to bring together all members of the Synergy Family - our Seafarers, Shore staff, family members as well as the stakeholders.

We would love to hear from you and have your contributions for the forthcoming issues as well as the website. You may share a write up on an inspiring event or own experience onboard or ashore, family additions, Stories about life, Health, Fitness, photographs, sketches, poems, drawing by children, poems, get together or just jokes!

*Please write to us at [editorialteam@synergymarine.sg](mailto:editorialteam@synergymarine.sg)*



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Learn more about us and the people that make Synergy Group - on our official Facebook page. Become a fan now by finding us there as "Synergy Marine Group"



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# Fog Horn

Synergy Group Newsletter



Winter Edition 2014



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## MD's Note

- RAJESH UNNI

Dear Readers & Colleagues

Wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

2013 was a great year for the company and our relationships developed with many new clients and lot of addition to the fleet from our existing clients. The shipping market wheels are turning in the right direction. In our pursuit for excellence, it was also good to be bestowed with the "Partner of the year award" from BP. You can read in more detail about the award in page 6 of this magazine. Thanks to every one of you for contributing to this award.

Growing up is great but it also brings in greater responsibility and challenge. We have addition of new members in the team, restructuring to get the teams right and reworking on the systems and processes we follow. Growth is natural but along with this we need to scale up excellence. Excellence is about not repeating the mistakes. And this can happen when we have a strong connect amongst the shore team, shipboard teams and our customers. And with so much changes within the teams, we not only need to connect well but we also need to cascade the values we have that are in pursuit of excellence. Values are a value for us. There are plenty of things we have done well. We need to spread the goodness across all our activities. Excellence is more of a mindset we carry when we grow. It's a habit. We showed in the past and we need to exhibit it more in 2014.

With these challenges, I wish every one of you a great voyage in our "Pursuit of excellence". Enjoy reading our winter edition and wish you all the success in 2014.

“Excellence is more of a mindset we carry when we grow. It's a habit.”

Synergy's senior management got together on 11 Jan 2014, for a Strategy & Vision workshop. The workshop was facilitated by a well-known organization development consultant, with over two decades of experience in well-known corporates.

The purpose of this workshop was to reflect on the company's journey till now and to develop a vision and strategy for the coming year. The key deliverables of this exercise were to crystallize the company's core values, define 'a Long term strategy and Develop a review mechanism to achieve goals.

The work shop was conducted at a scenic beach resort in Pondicherry. It was an opportunity for all participants to take a break from work and engage in serious discussions and brain storm to chart a road map for the next year.



## ECDIS Update: From the Chart Table

SOLAS regulations, Chapter V Regulation 19, regarding carriage of ECDIS (Electronic Chart Display and Information System) came into effect on 01st January 2011. Installation of at least one ECDIS becomes mandatory in a phased manner from 01st Jul 2012 (for New tankers above 3000 GT) to 01st July 2017 (for existing cargo ships more than 20000 GT). Back up arrangement for this ECDIS will be by either a second ECDIS or an appropriate folio of up-to-date paper charts.

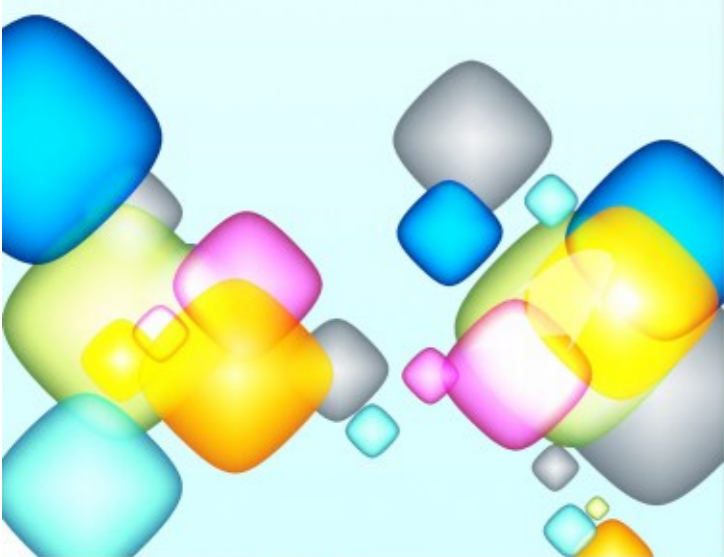
Synergy has type specific ECDIS simulators in our training center. The latest addition is FURUNO. This is a complete CBT driven (instructor free) simulator, where the candidates are systematically presented guidance through lessons streamed on internet from FURUNO's server.

The type specific ECDIS training at Synergy's training center is essentially for an officer who has undergone the generic ECDIS course based on STCW. The type specific course introduces the officer to the features of the ECDIS and trains them on use of ECDIS for passage planning and execution. Our trainers teach the officers to apply the safety features to monitor the vessel's track, limitations of the equipment, procedure to seek license key to open ENC and install updates to the ECDIS.

Synergy Training center now provides many type specific ECDIS training courses. We aim to have type specific ECDIS training for all leading ECDIS types at our center.



- with contribution from **Johnson Leonard**  
QHSE Executive



Our Manila office was officially inaugurated on 14 Dec 2013. The celebrations followed the blessing of the office by a priest. A beautiful bouquet of flowers sent by MOL enlivened the festive aura. Capt. Banta received a thoughtful gift by our esteemed guest, Satoshi Aizaki San of OMC Shipping.

We observed a minute's silence in memory of the victims of Typhoon Yolanda. Coins were thrown for good luck all over the office premises. Ricky Victoria welcomed the guest and employees to the event, which was followed by a short presentation by Capt. Astra. He shared an overview of the training program conducted for the seafarers. It was a wonderful experience to meet our seafarers on this occasion.




I am sharing few points for the younger generation of a fraternity that I respect and love.

- To begin with, you must realize that to reach at the top of your chosen career graph, one need not always be a topper in academics.
- Be the best and top in the domain you work in, and always be prepared for the next leap forward.
- Read....Read.....and Read..... as the book or article you are reading is the knowledge which comes from extensive research and experience. Equipment Manuals, plans and codes are all there for you to grasp knowledge.
- There are always valuable lessons to be learnt from Incident reports, Accident Reports, Investigation reports and LARP cards. Get involved with the same.
- Build your inner motivation to prepare for the next leap and you have to "Do things yourself" under the guidance of a mentor to "learn things". You have to look up to a superior who will guide you through the knowledge and learning opportunities. Mentors can also be in written form.....with many years of experience in the form of books, hence plan to read.
- The next step is to be a mentor yourself. You can arm your sub-ordinates with knowledge and experience. So take opportunity to contribute directly to training as well as incident investigation, LARP Cards.
- I would also like to mention a contribution made by one of my colleagues:

$C = (K+U+S) \times A$   
Competency = (Knowledge + understanding + Skill) multiplied by Attitude.

Last but not the least, I would like to take reference to a statement from one of my mentors: "Success is directly proportional to your application to the situation." This has been kept close to my heart at all times.

All the best...and Bon Voyage!!

 - with contribution by  
**Mr. UVR Krishnan**  
Head of Technical



## Team Introduction

- 1 Name- Sanjoy Tewary  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Music, Travelling
- 2 Name- Manas Ray  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Tennis, Reading
- 3 Name- Mathavan  
Designation- Head, Technical  
Hobbies- Photography, Travelling
- 4 Name- Abhishek Kumar  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Driving, Movies

- 5 Name- Ganesh Rajaraman  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Reading, Driving
- 6 Name- Prashant Singh  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Painting, Sculpting
- 7 Name- Rajiv Bhalla  
Designation- Fleet Manager  
Hobbies- Reading, Travelling
- 8 Name- Sankar Vajravelu  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Movies, Driving

- 9 Name- Hari Prasad  
Designation- Fleet Manager  
Hobbies- Movies, Photography
- 10 Name- Daniel Christopher  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Travelling, Reading
- 11 Name- Sivakumar D R  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Reading, Gardening
- 12 Name- Pankaj Kumar  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Volleyball, Music
- 13 Name- Gautam Kar  
Designation- Technical Manager  
Hobbies- Books, Music

- 14 Name- Umesh Iyengar  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Badminton, Cricket
- 15 Name- UVR Krishnan  
Designation- Head, Technical  
Hobbies- Gardening, Reading
- 16 Name- Debasish Mukherjee  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Reading, Music
- 17 Name- Anupam Ghosh  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Sports, Music
- 18 Name- Ramesh Kamada  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Sports, Driving

- 19 Name- Asish Sanyal  
Designation- Fleet Manager  
Hobbies- Photography, Travelling
- 20 Name- Pramod Singh  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Music, Cricket
- 21 Name- Deepak Krishna  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Movies, Music
- 22 Name- Manoj Kalra  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Driving, Swimming

- 23 Name- Vignesh Kumar  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Driving, Drawing
- 24 Name- Robert Vizo  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Music, Gardening
- 25 Name- Devanand Raj  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Music, Reading
- 26 Name- Sumit Kumar  
Designation- Technical Superintendent  
Hobbies- Sports, Movies

Our ashore Technical Management team is ever committed to lead towards achievements, along with people onboard.

# Synergy wins BP Shipping CEO's "Partner of the Year" Award



We are delighted and honored to be chosen BP Shipping CEO's "Partner of the year". This is an annual recognition under the BP Shipping Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) forum. The award was presented by Mr John Ridgway, CEO of BP Shipping on Nov 5, 2013 at a function in London. It was a proud moment for us as we stood amongst our peers, all leaders in shipping.



The BP Shipping awards recognizes BP Shipping's partners, whose contributions have promoted new ideas that enhance safety and environment management.

The citation to our award mentions that Synergy's LARP (Look, Act, Report, Prevent) is a new effective program to create a proactive safety culture on board ships.

The Look/Act/Report/Prevent encourages the seafarer to do just that. Unsafe situations happen all the time due various lapses, often inadvertent. In the LARP program, the seafarer is encouraged to look out for Unsafe situations, Act to prevent harm and Report the unsafe situation in a LARP card. The LARP cards are shared with everyone on the ship, and does well to remind us of the unsafe situations that happen around us. We have seen an encouraging shift in perception of safety on board since we implemented this initiative.

The LARP program was developed in-house and reflects our commitment to empower the seafarer create a safe work place on board.

This award is dedicated to all the Synergians!

## Synergian designs SSA- YEG Logo

Captain Sairaj (young at heart) and Kruti Shah (actually young), won the "Logo Design Competition," at the 8th anniversary celebration of Singapore Shipping Association's Young Executives Group (YEG). The YEG is a group for Young executives set up by the Singapore Shipping Association (with over 250 member companies) to generate greater awareness and participation in the industry.

Through its activities, the YEG aims to nurture future leaders for the maritime industry and the Association. The YEG is also called upon to make appropriate recommendations and comments to the SSA Council as well as to other Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups. Synergy's winning design met all the criteria set by SSA. It is an honour to have a logo created by Synergians to be chosen as the SSA-YEG logo. Congratulations!!!



Selected Logo



Logo designed by- Ms. Kruti Shah

## New additions to our fleet



Name of ship: M.V. Solar N  
Gross tonnage: 35581  
Type of ship: Container Ship  
Year of build: 2006



Name of ship: M.V. Eden Bay  
Gross tonnage: 17018  
Type of ship: Bulk Carrier  
Year of build: 2008



Name of ship: M.T. Nave Lucida  
Gross tonnage: 28799  
Type of ship: Oil Products Tanker  
Year of build: 2005



Name of ship: LPG Tirumala Gas  
Gross tonnage: 18360  
Type of ship: LPG Tanker  
Year of build: 1993



Name of ship: M.V. Sentosa Bulker  
Gross tonnage: 22308  
Type of ship: Bulk Carrier  
Year of build: 2010



Name of ship: M.V. East Bangkok  
Gross tonnage: 32500  
Type of ship: Bulk Carrier  
Year of build: 2012



Name of ship: M.V. KM Hakata  
Gross tonnage: 50626  
Type of ship: Bulk Carrier  
Year of build: 2013



Name of ship: M.V. Reunion Bay  
Gross tonnage: 20236  
Type of ship: Cargo Ship  
Year of build: 2006

## Family day out at MGM Beach Resort, Chennai

The Synergy team at Chennai had a fun filled Employee Day at MGM resorts beside the beach on Dec 7. The celebrations kicked off the moment one set foot there. We were welcomed amidst the energetic beats of the dhol (double sided barrel drum) and a soothing welcome drink. The day was filled with group activities aimed at team building. It was fun running around playing musical chairs, beach volleyball, beach cricket and many such team games. After the games, we spent some time to celebrate the talented youngsters in our team. The show started with a dance performance on sizzling bollywood numbers followed by singing performance by familiar faces from within Synergy. The Fashion show was another key highlight of the evening, eliciting maximum audience attention.

Towards late evening, the DJ opened the floor and there was joyful dancing coupled with great music. The day was topped up with delicious dinner and desserts.



-with contribution by  
Ms. Kirthi  
HR executive

## Family day at Myra's Beach Club, Singapore

Family day was organized on 24 Nov for the Singapore team at a Beach Club on the East Coast Park. The setting was grand- A splendid view of the Singapore straits, the beach sand, surf and an elaborate buffet. Families bonded over spirited conversations and food handpicked by our prolific event managers Abhishek and Sanjeev. There was a special array of food for the kids comprising of pizzas, potato wedges and of course cakes.

The magic show for children enthralled everyone. A surprise rain shower, failed to dampen the spirits, but brought us close together in the shades of the tent.

One of the key highlights of the day was the joy on the faces of children when they received surprise gifts thoughtfully picked for them. Kids were ebullient with joy and enjoyed the day playing at the beach.



-with contribution by (L to R)  
Ms. Hemamalini and  
Ms. Eriana Supandi

# Capt. Unni heads North

The year has begun with good news. Capt. Rajesh Unni, founder of the Synergy Group has been nominated to the Board of Directors of North. NOE helps to protect and promote the interests of the ship-owning industry and has an "A" rating from the financial rating agency Standard & Poor's.

It is a privilege to be associated with North of England P&I Club in this capacity. Capt. Unni holds the distinction of being one of the youngest to have been nominated to this position. The select group of directors guide the Club's management in setting operating policies and advise on important matters amongst the shipping fraternity.

By this inclusion, Synergy has joined the elite league of companies having representation in a P&I Club of such high repute. North of England happens to be the 2nd largest P&I club in terms of entered tonnage and the largest stand-alone club providing P&I services.

This appointment is a testimony to the contribution and the responsible role Synergy Group plays in the shipping industry.



# Christmas bells



The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree is the presence of a happy family on MOL Presence



Liven up the Christmas celebration with sizzling food and fun onboard IVS Cabernet

Celebrations from Thunderbird Bulker



Winners of the Word scramble in Autumn edition.

1. CE - Mr. R.Suresh Babu
2. Capt. Sony George
3. M/M - Mr. Joseph Anthony

A hearty Congratulations to all the winner!

## List of promotions

*Congratulations and best wishes to the following senior sailing staff who have recently achieved their promotions at the Synergy Group*

- Capt. Nitin Arora
- Capt. Vishal Singh
- Capt. L.P.Alto
- Capt. S.Kishan Shetty
- CE Sojan Thomas
- CE Guneashekar
- CE Ahmed Mothi
- C/O Dixon Davis
- C/O Dwayne Fernandes
- C/O Lawrence Jesuraj Agnel
- C/O Pankaj Sharma
- C/O Nickel Panakkal
- C/O Brino
- 2E Anbu Selvan

## From the Galley

We invite all the Chefs on board to send us a winning entry for a healthy dish

Please send us:-

1. A picture of the dish (salad/dessert/main course – anything that can be prepared within 30 minutes)

2. Name and origin

3. Recipe

Winning entry shall be showcased here + Chef will receive an award.



Our Manila team enjoys the festival spirit together



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

HEARTY WISHES FOR THE WHOLE SYNERGY FAMILY FROM THE TEAM OF NAVE PULSAR

Here comes the twinkling & sparkling Christmas tree from the team Nave Pulsar



The school kids in Santa caps, spreading smiles and cheers all around

# On board with our seafarers

## Safety Week on OCCL, Dubai

Capt. Navneet Bhatia organized a weeklong safety awareness drive for the crew on board the OOCL Dubai from October 13-October 20th, 2013. The key objective was to motivate the crew to adopt safe working practices when at sea.

The concept of safety lies at the core of Synergy's vision. This drive was brought alive by posters displayed at vantage points on the ship. It involved extensive training workshops lasting

an hour on a daily basis during the period. These training sessions focused on familiarity of the crew with Safe working procedures in the HSPP Manual, use and operation of Fire Fighting appliance on board the ship, ship board safety fittings, emergency exits and mooring operations. These procedures play a critical role in the overall safety methods. Additional discussions with crew focused on the Permit to Work system and imparting of ideas on how to create a safer work

environment for themselves and their mates. In order to simulate emergency situations, real life scenarios were created to practice Shipboard emergency drills. Crew members reporting the maximum numbers of LARP were given cash prizes from the shipboard welfare fund.

We acknowledge Capt. Bhatia and all the staff on board for organizing and participating in this drive in synergy with each other.

-with contribution by  
Capt. Navneet Bhatia,  
OCCL, Dubai



## Welcoming 2014 with Table tennis competition

A Table Tennis tournament was organized on the vessel MT Garnet Express. All staff participated actively and enjoyed the event.

The T.T. tournament was organized and coordinated by 2/E Gaurav Aggarwal and assisted by E/O Sai Harsha

The winners were awarded certificates by Capt. S.K. Saxena.



## Art of photography



The ship that passes in the Dawn

With contribution by -  
Mr. C.Subramonian,  
TH Sound



Team APL Florida

With contribution by -  
Capt. Bijoy Palakkal,  
APL Florida



On the bridge wings

With contribution by -  
Mr. Sifathullah,  
Garnet Express

## My experience with Synergy

Let me start by expressing my thanks to the company for starting a newsletter. This is a praiseworthy initiative towards including onboard events as our industry typically does not showcase ships in their newsletters.

Moving from my previous company to Synergy was a good move as this is my second ship here. Some of the positive observations in my time so far with Synergy, is the spirit displayed by senior staff towards motivating juniors with continuous guidance and proactive counsel on errors rectification and prevention. Inter-departmental co-operation is noteworthy as all efforts are focused towards providing a better work atmosphere.

Onboard activities like table tennis, cricket tournaments help ease tension. The cook ensures that food is always good and does not make us miss homemade food. Multilingual movies are provided for entertainment so that's welcome. The LARP card reporting system is a standalone model and I really appreciate think tanks behind it. Mixing all different state crew and officer's is one good step to prevent regionalism onboard.

While new personnel are added, one must never compromise on company values.

Once again i thank all the personnel who have made Synergy from just a company to a whole new experience.

- with contribution by  
Mr. Jithin Janardhanan,  
APL Poland

*Do you wish to share your experiences with us?*

*Write to us at  
editorialteam@synergymarine.sg*

## Drills aboard



It was another routine Saturday drill and training session that the crew onboard of MT Nanyang Star expected. After the de-briefing session, Capt. Bhupesh Gera announced a surprise Immersion suit donning competition.

The crew were told about the rules for the competition. The whistle was blown and all crew scrambled to wear the immersion suit. Fitter Jesu was the fastest man to wear the suit, followed by other crew members including 3E Mr. Perumal who came second just a fraction of seconds later. The winner took away a case of coke and a box of chips. Congratulation!!

-with contribution by  
Mr. Aditya Khajuria,  
Nanyang Star

## Chefs corner

### Birthday celebrations on Ivs Cabernet



Chief Cook Sasi, prepares delicious fare onboard the Synergy Queen.



## Rising Little Stars

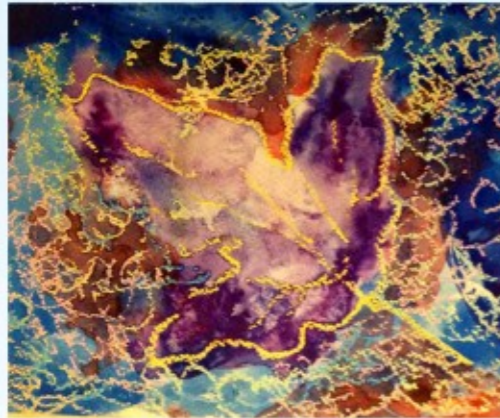
We have two talented kids from the Synergy brethren achieving great laurels bringing pride to their family and us. Akshitha 9 and Rohan 7 children of Rajesh GT working in Singapore office are the rising stars in the field of sports, arts and music.

Akshitha recently participated in the program, "One Minute of Fame," appearing on Singapore's local channel OKTO. She was shortlisted amongst the top 10 participants and also won the title for the best costume.

Rohan and Akshitha are interested in Carnatic music, and are being formally trained since an early age at the "Nriyalaya academy of Music, Singapore". They participate in several shows, winning accolades and prizes.



Name - Keerthana K.L.  
Class - 1st



Name - Sanjana Sairaj  
Class - 4th



Name - Anoushka Sairaj  
Class - 2nd



Name - Anahat Nalwa  
Class - 2nd

## Republic day drawings by school kids



Name - Anand, Class 4th



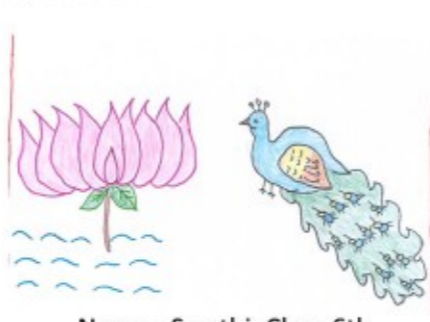
Name - Jagadeesh, Class 5th



Name - Gandhi, Class 4th



Name - Sujatha, Class 4th



Name - Swathi, Class 6th

The islands of Leyte in Philippines faced one of the worst natural disasters in its history when it was ravaged by the devastating Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) on 8th Nov 2013. Reports claim that nearly 10 million people were impacted and more than 600,000 people displaced.

Our esteemed principal, Capt. Sridhar Pingali broached the idea of "Box Of Hope". Synergy staff from ships and offices, whole heartedly participated in this relief initiative and helped to ship the boxes to Philippines.

The main objective of this initiative was to pack most essential items like packed food, rice, first aid kit, sanitary pads, clothing, flash light, and water packets all in a small cardboard carton. These boxes were then shipped to the affected areas in the Philippines.

The response to this drive was overwhelming as the shipping community in Singapore generously contributed to support this noble cause. There were over 350 boxes collected. We thank Capt. Pingali for giving us an opportunity to participate in this relief work.

We would like to acknowledge contribution from these ships in particular

- MV IKAN PANDAN
- MV TOUCAN BULKER
- MV KING RICE
- MV JUBILANT EXCELLENCE
- MV EVA BULKER
- MV OCCITAN BARSAC
- MV PRABHU SHAKTI
- MV ALAM MUTIARA
- MV VELA OCEAN
- MV OCCITAN STAR
- MV SENTOSA BULKER

