

Lee Kuan Yew

1923 - 2015

"I'm very determined. If I decide what something is worth doing, then I'll put my heart and soul to it. The whole ground can be against me, but if I know it is right, I'll do it. That's the business of a leader."



Synergy Group

Fog Horn

Synergy Group Newsletter

Issue 08
July 2015

Let's Celebrate
**SG
50**
Together

CELEBRATING THE LITTLE RED DOT.

What is SG50? Well, it represents the little red dot that we've come to know as home. The logo celebrates the Singaporean spirit - signifying that our dreams are not limited by the physical size of our island nation.

We Want to Hear From You!

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 in forthcoming issues as well as for the website. You may share a write up on an inspiring event or your own experience on-board or ashore, a joyous occasion in your family, stories about life, health, fitness, photographs, sketches, drawings by children, poems, get together's or just jokes!

Write to us at editorialteam@synergymarine.sg

Follow us on



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MD's Note



Dear Colleagues,

The last few years have seen many shipping companies slowly moving beyond compliance. The phrases "company culture", "onboard culture" and "people's attitude" have started gaining importance. Shore based management teams have started working on behavior based safety modules. This begs the question, "Are we trying to do something new?" I don't think so.

Culture and attitude have been a part of us ever since humans started living together. The culture and values of an organization or a community is the essence to its success and survival. At Synergy we are very conscious of this fact. Building a sense of community is the key. Development of this sense is based on character, values, beliefs and not just performance, incentives and individual gains. When people work together and are sure of the "circle of

safety", they feel they belong. This sense of belonging produces wonderful efforts and results. Everyone wants to work and do business with people who believe in what you believe. When you work or do business just as an exchange of goods or service, you will find the love not lasting long. It's the common values and beliefs that take you far. We have lost businesses in the recent past when this had happened. Reflecting on this it makes good decision. It only reinforces our faith in the values.

In our pursuit of excellence, we need to understand that everyone in our team needs to intentionally develop both task excellence and relational excellence. That is they need to be continually learning and developing healthy relationships with others. It means that we need to be a connected group, a community where everyone feels they belong. I have personally felt this whenever I go on board our ships and interact with our colleagues on board. As our community gets bigger it's important that we don't lose sight of this connected culture. When this culture is strong people "do the right thing". The sense of belonging makes them do it. When this sense is absent often people choose to "do the right thing for me".

The responsibility for a strong culture lies with every one of us. Each of us needs to feel we belong here and make sure everyone working with us feels the same. The best way to do that, whether you are onboard or ashore, new or been here forever, young or old is to interact. You will be surprised that we have so much in common.

Be safe and blessed.

Rajesh M. Unni



Diwang – Celebrating Our Pursuit of Excellence

Lauritzen Bulkers and Synergy Group conducted the bi-annual Filipino Crew seminar on June 3rd and 4th, 2015 at Manila. The shipboard and shore teams came together to associate, discuss and gather inputs from each other on various aspects of ship operations and management on board and ashore.

The purpose of the seminar was to convey the Owners' and Managers' perspective of operationally operating their ships in difficult market conditions and to be able to hear from the station board on their concerns and inputs on enhancing vessel performance and thereby help owners and managers achieve their business goals.

The seminar was full of interesting discussions and interactions by the members of the Lauritzen Bulkers team. There were also very crisp and clear presentations by Synergy Group members focusing on areas in line with the owner's interests in curbing unwarranted expenses and optimizing output.

The Lauritzen Bulkers team from Denmark this time comprised of Mr. Claus Stahl (Senior Vice President and Deputy), Mr. Claus Mygind (Vice President Operations), Ms. Anne Bruun Larsen (Deputy Head of Operations), Ms. Dorte Rol (General Counsel & Head of Legal), Capt. Troels Jorgensen (Performance Manager), Mr. Morten Krogstrup (Project Manager) and Capt. Morten Kjell Larsen (Port Captain) from Singapore.

The session began with the ubiquitous introduction to J. Lauritzen, their history and the team at Denmark via a video presentation. The interactions encompassed a wide range of very pertinent topics covering Maritime Anti-Corruption Network, Operational topics (WNI, Exasite, OSR, NOR) and Technical topics (VERP) in breakaway groups, cargo hold cleaning and wash water, process costs and log lashings on day one. The maritime anti-corruption topic drew immense interest from the ship's officers, who chipped in with the practical issues in dealing with this issue. The Lauritzen team threw light on the MAC Network and gave precise inputs in dealing with corruption in the maritime industry. The evening culminated in cocktails and dinner with the seminar group bonding together as one.

Day two moved ahead with bunkering process and energy efficiency from the technical / performance desk and an all informative presentation on improving PSC performance and avoiding injuries and concluded with an open forum on improving operations and cooperation. The whole seminar exuded energy, more so with the Lauritzen colors of red tees that smartly adorned the torsos of all.



Contributed by,
Capt. Krishnakumar Mundath
Marine Superintendent –
Common Marine Services

Probe the basic purpose of regulations

Our analytical review into the cause of incidents sheds light on the fact that improvement in understanding of the basic objective of regulations, procedures and instructions is necessary.

Successful shipping is the result of a synergized cooperation of all the stakeholders (especially ship managers). Each member has an important role to play. All team members must have a good knowledge of the procedures to be followed in handling the equipment they operate.

Of course, the possession of required knowledge is tested and certificates to that effect have been issued and only then are they eligible for employment. The question then is what is the cause of failure of operation?

More often than not, it is the negligence in following simple instructions or as it happens in a few cases there is a lack of understanding of the basic objective behind the instructions. For example, every two-wheeler and pillion rider must wear a helmet. This is a strict guideline. The purpose of this guideline is to save the lives of the motorcyclists and pillion riders. If the purpose of this objective is understood well, people will appreciate it and follow it strictly and willingly. They will not underestimate the guideline and the authorities will be appreciative of them.

If we do not understand the basic objective of a guideline, we may use our own discretion in complying with the regulation which may result in inefficiencies. But once we completely understand the purpose of a regulation, we will comply with the regulation irrespective of time, commercial or other constraints.



Contributed by, Capt. N. Subbiah
Fleet Manager – Tanker Operations

Further, the situation that warranted the procedures, if understood in its true essence will enable the ship staff to work prudently.

Let the shipping brethren equip themselves by thinking about the purpose of every instruction and be more successful.



Synergy Group vessels KM Hakata, N Bonanza, OOCL Italy, OOCL Kaohsiung, OOCL Kualalumpur & Solar N were presented with AMVER Awards for their efforts in coordinating with rescue authorities. Seen here, is Mr. K.S. Win, receiving the award on behalf of the Synergy Group.

Chemical Tanker - Know your ship and procedure for Hassle Free operation

Introduction and Trade history of Chemicals Cargoes

The chemical industry is an innovator in science and technology and a solution provider in societal changes. It thus becomes imperative that these chemicals are traded to cater to the demands globally.

Bulk shipment of chemicals began in mid-1940's using standard oil product tanker's. Most early chemical tankers were slightly modified product tankers in which the difference was the coating of cargo tanks.

As the cargo was traded globally, the perspective of assessing the hazards associated with the cargoes were different. Hence different countries developed their own regulations to minimize the risk to the ship, environment and the crew. Since the regulations were not uniform across countries it was extremely difficult for the ship staff to comply with them. Hence IMO developed the 'International Bulk Chemical Code' (IBC) that was a major step forward to establish a standard for the safe design, construction and equipment of Chemical tankers.

The chemical tankers are classified into three different types for carriage of chemicals according to the risk they pose to the Human life and environment.

Types of Chemical Tanker

In line with IBC Code, three types of Chemical tankers are in use for trading chemical cargoes across the Globe.

They are classified as IMO Type 1, 2 & 3.

IMO Ship type 1

Type 1 ship is a chemical tanker designated to transport chemical products with very severe environmental and safety hazards which requires maximum safety measure to preclude escape of such cargoes.

IMO Ship type 2

Type 2 ship is a chemical tanker designated to transport with appreciably severe environmental and safety hazards which require significant preventive measures to preclude an escape of such cargo.

IMO Ship type 3

Type 3 ship is a chemical tanker designated to transport chemicals with sufficiently severe environmental and safety hazards which requires a

moderate degree of containment to increase survival capability in a damaged condition. Thus a type 1 ship is a chemical tanker intended for the transportation of products considered to present the greatest overall hazard and type 2 & 3 of progressively lesser hazard.

Cargo Tank Type

There are following type of cargo tank which can be found onboard chemical tanker

Independent Tank: is a cargo containment envelope which is not contiguous with, or part of, the hull structure. An independent tank is built and installed so as to eliminate whenever possible (or in any event to minimize) its stressing as a result of stressing or motion of the adjacent hull structure. An independent tank is not essential to the structural completeness of the ship's hull.

Integral Tank: is a cargo containment envelope which forms part of the ship's hull and which may be stressed in the same manner and by the same loads which stress the contiguous hull structure and which is normally essential to the structural completeness of the ship's hull.

Gravity Tank: is a tank having a design pressure not greater than 0.07 MPa gauge at the top of the tank. A gravity tank may be independent or integral. A gravity tank shall be constructed and tested according to recognized standards, Taking account of the temperature of carriage and relative density of the cargo.

Pressure Tank: is a tank having a design pressure greater than 0.07 MPa gauge. A pressure tank shall be an independent tank and shall be of a configuration permitting the application of pressure-vessel design criteria according to recognized standards. Requirements for both installation and design of tank types for individual products are shown in column "f" in the table of chapter 17 of IBC Code.

Cargo tank coatings

Cargo tanks are either coated with specialized coating such as Epoxy and Zinc coating or made from stainless steel (Solid or Clad steel). The type of cargo which can be carried depends upon the cargo tank material to determine whether the particular tank is fit to carry. The coating resistance list for the cargo tank coating material determines the cargo coating compatibility of the cargo.

Cargo Piping System

Cargo piping system on chemical tanker is mainly designed so as to divide cargo tanks and associated piping into several piping into several groups depending on the type of cargo.

There are two types of piping system

1. Group main system (Pumps used for group of cargo tanks). This system is observed on vessel where the cargoes carried are not reactive
2. Independent piping system (One tank/one pump system). This type of arrangement is found on most of parcel chemical tankers where various grades of chemical cargoes are carried.

Cargo heating system

Some of the chemical cargoes are required to be heated to maintain the temperature above the melting point to avoid cargo freezing

For heating cargoes, the heating arrangement is by heating coil or deck heaters.

The heating medium used is Steam or Thermal oil depending upon the characteristic of the cargoes.

Cargo venting system

There are two types of venting system used.

Open venting system: There is a free flow of cargo vapors to and from the cargo tank without any restriction from the cargo tank opening

Open venting system is used for cargoes with flash point below 60°C and also for the cargoes which do not pose any health hazard.

Controlled venting system: It is a type in which pressure vacuum valve is fitted in each tank to limit the pressure and vacuum inside the tank and to allow the cargo vapours to vent at a specific velocity.

Additionally for cargoes which are highly toxic the cargo vapors from the cargo tank are recovered back into the shore tank through the vapor return line system fitted.

Conclusion:

The chemical tanker may appear as sophisticated vessel to operate considering the wide range of cargoes and the hazards associated with the cargoes.

As "You cannot judge a book by its cover" the same goes with the nomenclature "Chemical tanker".

You cannot judge this tanker basis the nomenclature of the vessel and the cargo.

Chemical tankers are being operated for decades now basis the clear understanding about the vessel and the cargo. However a closer analysis of the generic incidents which have happened on chemical tankers in the past leads us to the following root causes -

- Y Inexperienced crew
- Y Untrained crew (Unaware of Hazards associated with cargo)
- Y Complacency that leads to shortcuts, non-compliance with procedures.
- Y Top management onboard and ashore unable to handle the commercial pressure
- Y The operation/task poorly planned.

Understanding the hazards involved in the chemical tanker operation, following is the lead taken by us to make this operation hassle free.

We conduct the following courses, which are beyond minimum STCW requirement, at our in-house Training Centre, (MOL- SYNERGY TRAINING CENTRE) located in Chennai

Advance Chemical tanker training course for officers.

Chemical tanker familiarization course for the ratings.

The course leads to following outcome

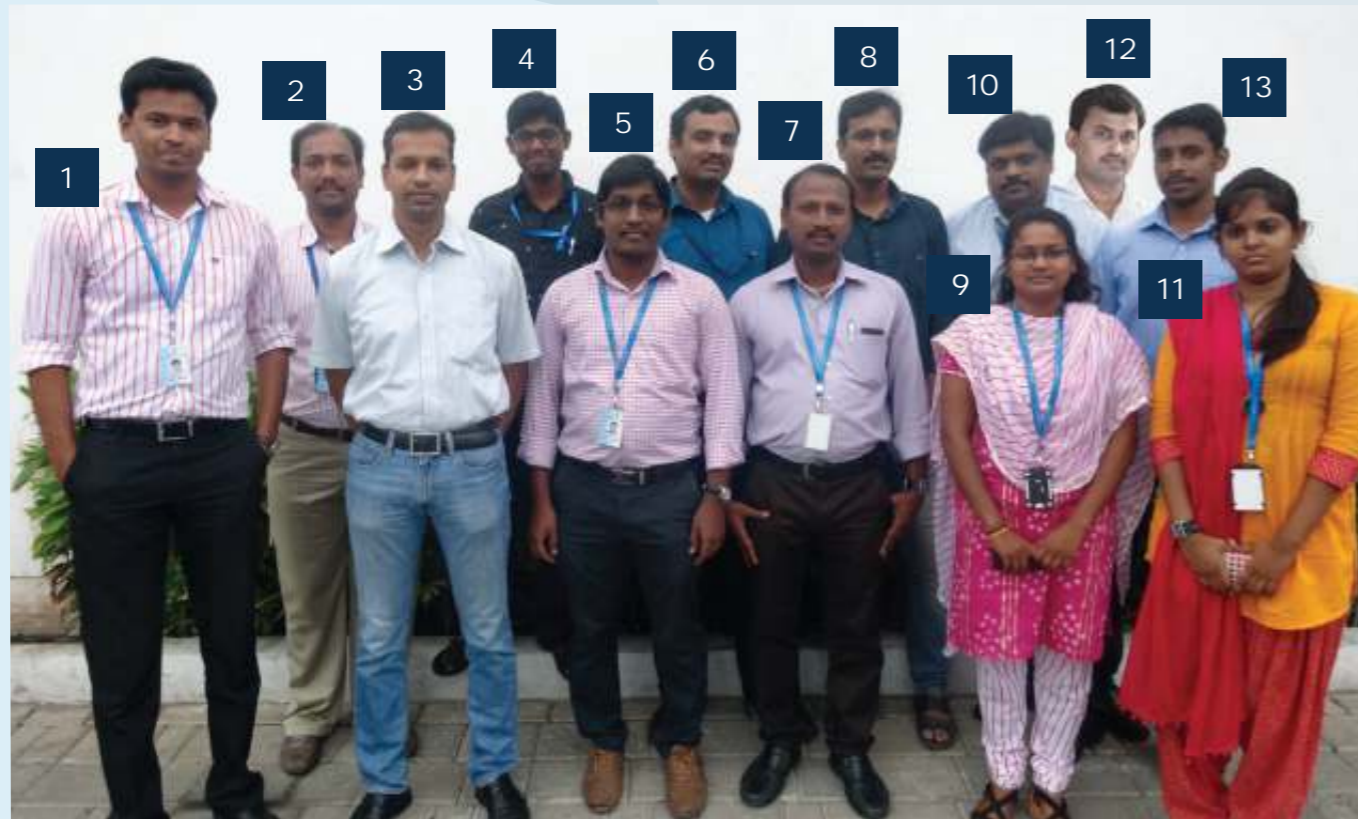
1. The ship staff understand the challenges observed in the chemical tanker trade
2. Better understanding about Chemical tanker operational procedures
3. Understand the hazards associated with various chemical cargoes and right procedure to handle this cargoes
4. Practical execution on cargo and tank cleaning operation on the LCHS Simulator
5. Better understanding of commercial implication due to unsafe operation
6. Hands on experience on the wall wash test under the supervision of experienced faculty.



Contributed by,
Capt. Thomas Varghese
Chemical Tanker Operation

Meet the team - IT

Many of us, both at sea and ashore, would have been in touch with our IT team and also have met them. For the rest, we take this opportunity to introduce our innovative and collaborative IT team!



- 1 Name: Mr. Ilaiyakumar M
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Sports & Trekking
- 2 Name: Mr. Dilip Kumar
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Music & Watching TV
- 3 Name: Mr. Sridhar Mahadevan
Designation: IT Manager
Hobbies: Reading books & Watching movies
- 4 Name: Mr. Devendran D
Designation: IT Assistant
Hobbies: Writing & Music
- 5 Name: Mr. Senthilvelan. G
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Writing & Travelling
- 6 Name: Mr. Vignesh. B
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Reading & Music
- 7 Name: Mr. Saravanan. P
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Stamp collection & Travelling
- 8 Name: Mr. Vijay Narayanan B
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Sports & Watching movies
- 9 Name: Ms. Dhanalakshmi. S
Designation: Documentation Executive - IT
Hobbies: Painting & Gardening
- 10 Name: Mr. Gaurav Singh
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Playing Cricket & Travelling
- 11 Name: Ms. Shabilash A.R
Designation: Purchase Executive - IT
Hobbies: Gardening & Playing Badminton
- 12 Name: Mr. Senthil Murugan. A
Designation: System Administrator
Hobbies: Travelling & Music
- 13 Name: Mr. Kannan A
Designation: Network Administrator
Hobbies: Music & Reading

Rising Star

R4 - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Restore - My Forevision

As a student who is studying Conservation as a subject in school I was very much receptive about anything and everything which is environmentally friendly. I was recently working on "R4-Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Restore, my Fore vision" and as a part of this I was thinking of reducing our household waste. Sights of garbage dumps made me feel very disappointed. When I came across this workshop by 'Daily Dump' it was a composting workshop which helps create awareness about how to convert the kitchen waste into the organic manure and was just what I was looking for!

I could reduce the amount of waste generated from my home, the kitchen waste would no longer go into the dustbin and would no longer add to the garbage piles on streets-at least not from my house!

After this workshop I was all excited and ready to start composting my kitchen waste. I made a promise to myself that no kitchen waste will now end up in the dustbin of my house. For my kitchen waste I had a new friend now and it was "A COMPOSTER—KAMBHA".

KAMBHA brought some changes in the daily routine of our family - all the members were instructed not to throw any kitchen waste in the dust bin, which previously used to sink because of the same. We now started segregating the waste. All the wet waste had to meet its end into the KAMBHA and to take re-birth in the form of HOME MADE ORGANIC MANURE ---which I feel should be called THE BLACK GOLD.

We started dumping all the wet waste in KAMBHA and added some composting powder to it. In around 20 days the first chamber was full and was replaced by the second, once the second chamber was filled the first one was fully decomposed and was ready to use. I was all excited as I was about to get my first harvest. I dried it in the sun for a day and sieved it to get my black harvest ready!!

I would also like to thank my family members for their support in this initiative and I hopefully would have inspired a few more readers of Foghorn to invest in 'Black Gold' - as 'Green' is the only way forward.

Contributed by,
Miss. Sudiksha Kaushik
D/O Capt. Rajeev Kaushik
Ex: Falcon Victory



In the above pictures, it is the composted manure ready to be sieved. Below is the final product which I am now using in the plants and my kitchen garden.



From an idea to reality!

Proud to be a seafarer – Proud to be a Synergian!

As part of the 4th 'International Day of the Seafarer' celebrations, Synergy Group successfully collaborated with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), yet again!

The focus of the campaign this year was Maritime Education and why today's youth should consider a career at sea.

As the focus was on youth, we utilized all our resources in an effort to reach out to them through a structured campaign on social media. The campaign showed how the multi-faceted maritime world offers a series of rich and fulfilling career opportunities for young people, both at sea and ashore.

We also organized a grand celebration at our Chennai office. The precursor to the event were posters and banners in the office and also in the office buses which criss-cross the city and helped reach out to scores of youngsters. Festooning our office were colourful balloons proclaiming, "Happy Seafarer Day" and "Thank you Seafarers". The office staff and the seafarers were all wearing badges as a part of the festivities which revolved around the theme, 'Career at Sea'.

Capt. Sony George (Insurance Division) started off the celebrations with an introduction about the importance of seafarers and the reason for celebrating 'Seafarers Day'. Capt. Ayush Joshi and 2nd Engineer Mr. Prem Anand followed with a small tête-à-tête about 'Career at Sea' and their experiences related to life at sea from the time they joined as a cadet. The one thing which was evident was that they would choose a career at sea all over again if they could go back in time, and that too without an iota of doubt!

A free-for-all quiz competition was organized and the theme was the 'Maritime Industry' and its long and glorious history, surprisingly it was the girls who walked away with the 'gift hampers' answering 3 of the 5 questions correctly!

The celebration ended with a vote of thanks for all the seafarers of Synergy who truly make the company what it is.





List of promotions

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

Master Capt. Daniel Benjamin
 Master Capt. Deepak Fernandes
 Master Capt. Jaidev Angral
 Master Capt. Kamran Khalid
 Master Capt. Lorio Antoni
 Master Capt. Rahon Cecilio
 Master Capt. Rohit Sharma
 Master Capt. Soro Alberto
 Master Capt. Sudarsan Srinivasan
 CO Mr. Amardeep Sekhon
 CO Mr. Arun Baiju
 CO Mr. Deep Narayanan
 CO Mr. Kocherry Steve John

CO Mr. Kona Sivakumar
 CO Mr. Koppula Parameswara Rao
 CO Mr. Krishnan Ilango
 CO Mr. Maranga Roy
 CO Mr. Mohit Maheswari
 CO Mr. Parthiban Vijay
 CO Mr. Shanshank Sood
 CO Mr. Sharma Ajaykumar
 CO Mr. Shyam Sunder
 CE Mr. Anand Raj
 CE Mr. Anjani K Pandey
 CE Mr. Casiano Alex
 CE Mr. John bri o

CE Mr. Kiron Sekhar
 CE Mr. Ni n Waghmare
 CE Mr. Pari Arun Kumar
 CE Mr. Siva sudharsanan
 2E Mr. Apostol Glenn
 2E Mr. Bansalan Dumenciano
 2E Mr. Deepak Gopal
 2E Mr. Kannan
 2E Mr. Kubendran
 2E Mr. Kugnesan
 2E Mr. Shaiju K
 2E Mr. Talic c Franco
 2E Mr. Thiruvengadam
 2E Mr. Vivekanand

Synergy's Exclusive

Proud to be a Synergian

Mr. Jiji .K
 Admin Officer – Manning Department
 No of Years in Synergy – 8
 Location : Chennai



I would like to thank Synergy for helping me to explore and expand my full potential. Synergy has given me lots of opportunities to reach my successful path. Synergy has moulded me to find the best of what I am. It has been nothing else but inspirational to work for an organization like Synergy. Happy to be a part of Synergy.

Ms. Jibby .C
 Finance Controller – Accounts Department, Manila
 No of Years in Synergy – 2.5
 Location : Manila



I consider myself blessed not only to be amongst the first employees of SGO, Manila but also the opportunity to be an integral part of the wonderful Synergy Group family. I have worked in different industries and countries but it is in the Synergy Group where I have met the most humble and selfless people whose first priority is it's own people's welfare and professional growth. With the constant flow of positive energy and a personal touch approach, Synergy is an organization where anyone, from the tremendous support and motivation given by the leadership to every employee, can pursue their dreams and turn them into a reality. I am very proud to see SGO too blossom from its humble beginnings to a brand that boasts of the highest standards and quality. I wish the Group all the success in the future too and hope I can always remain a part of the family.

Ms. Parvathy Sudhakar
 Marine Executive
 No of Years in Synergy – 2
 Location : Cochin
 "I feel being with the company"



Working with Synergy for the past Two years, I experienced as to what it really meant to be professional and responsible. I would like to call my tenure with synergy as not just work experience rather a complete mentoring period where both professional as well as the personal side of mine is getting molded. The exposure I got with synergy gives me the confidence to walk into various arenas of life and face it with pride. I could keep writing volumes, but for the time being, let me express my gratitude towards the management and my colleagues and seniors at Synergy who have invested their valuable time in helping me to learn and thrive in this field.

Ms. Vandana Arora
 Manning Executive
 No of Years in Synergy – 2
 Location : Delhi



I have been associated with Synergy for over two years now and I want you all to know how privileged I am to be a part of such an amazing organization, filled with such amazing people and supportive environment. It warms my heart to know that what we have done over the past few years has gone all over the world and hopefully brings many blessings to all. For me, it is really cool to step in and learn the nitty-gritty's of the shipping industry and apply them to the best of use with the wonderful guidance of our seniors and co-workers worldwide. Thank you all Synergians from the bottom of my heart.

Synergy in Pictures



An interactive Workshop on 'Media Handling' was conducted by MTI at our Chennai office recently. Seafarers, Managers, Superintendents and Executives were all part of this workshop which focussed on handling emergency situations, press meets and also the importance of Social media and how relatively harmless images/comments can snowball into controversies.



On 14th May, we had our 500,000th Website visitor. That was a milestone of which we were fairly proud of – thank you for all the support!



Capt. Gaurav Bha (second from left) Superintendent – Fleet Personnel Department, representing Synergy at the inaugural function of "NAVINAUTICS-2015" - AMET University's National Level Naval Symposium, the theme this year was "Challenges to sustainable Shipping"

Rising Star

Kid's Contribution



Name: Askhitha Rajesh & Rohan Rajesh
Class: 6th Std and 4th Std
D/O: GTRajesh
They have won several medals in the Singapore Sport Events where the prizes were distributed by Hon. Consulate General, High Commission of India



Name: Mithil Govind
Class: B.E (Comp Sci) III yr
S/O Ms. Liji Manoj
Won the first prize in the 'Ethical Hacking Competition' conducted by IIT - Delhi, through their program "ROBO TRYST 2015"



Name: Shresht Sachin
Class: UKG
S/O: Capt. Sachin Shankar
Won a trophy in the inter-branch Karate competition in school



Name: Laksha Satheesh
Class: Sr KG
D/O Capt. Satheesh Chinnadurai
Received a medal for excelling in academics in school



Name: Richa Miriyam
Class: 1st Std
D/O Capt. Sony George
Won the first prize in fresh flower arrangement in school



Name: Coniah Angela Kyle V. Asis
Class: XI Std
D/O Coniah Angela Kyle V. Asis
Coniah has received several citations in school for her talent, she also teaches younger kids to paint and sketch.



Name: Aaryan .S
Class: UKG
S/O - Mrs. Parvthy V. Nair
Won the first prize in the 'hurdle race' held in school.



Art by: Ved Varma
Class: 1st Std
S/O - Ms. Suchitra Varma
5 year old Ved, is a talented youngster - whose interest lies primarily in glass painting.

Seafarers' Contribution So Said The Old Sailor

Clear skies, Blue Ocean, Light wind and Rippled waves
Easy and smooth sailing, it makes me feel a sailor at heart.
We continue sailing. What a delightful feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Boy that's the best you can get".

Showers on deck, overcast skies, raging seas and joyous swell.
It rolls and pitches, makes my head reel and heavy as a football.
Yet we continue sailing. What an uncomfortable feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Boy this is where tough men are born".

Work, work and more work. Green notes- some call them dollars. For all the hard work sweat and time spent, they seem so little.
Yet we continue working. Over time they say. What a dismal feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Boy save wisely or sail forever".

Free time it is, with Google, Yahoo, Facebook and Twitter.
Surfing, downloading, hash-tagging(#) and poking.
Making friendship is so alluring. Friends made are so many.
Yet we continue making more. What a satisfying feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Boy the Internet is here to stay".

Water, water and more water. Not a single island in sight.
Long voyages and economic speeds, gulls and waves pass-by yet we continue sailing.
What a lonely feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Boy cheer up there's land over the horizon".

Every port I visit; every town square, disc, market or street I go to. Girls appear beautiful than ever before, but beauty lies in the beholder's eyes.
And I keep searching for 'The One'. What a miserable feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "The One Love you will find when at home".

Sign off day, eyes moist, I watch my home which was for last 9 months.
Wonder if I would ever return.

Dollars earned surely feel a lot now. Yet I continue wondering. What a confused feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Boy you are a Man now destined to return".

Arms around me, my heart beat sinking, have missed her for so long. A light hug and tears in her eyes.
Mother looked older than before. We continue hugging.
What a cradle like feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Home Sweet Home".

With family, friends and relatives, it's party time as always.
My wallet is heavy, they are aware of it. Who said dollars were little. Drinks, drinks and more drinks.
What an intoxicating feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Boy enjoy it's your time now".

Looking into her bright eyes, as though could read the ocean through them.
She looked prettier, sweeter and a racier than anyone else.
Yet humble and firm.
Was she 'The One'? YES! Oh what a Romantic feeling.
As the Old Sailor said; "The One Love you will find when at home".

My wallet feels drained now. It's time to go back to sea.
With stung eyes "When will you be back?" she asked. Soon & will remember you every day, I said. What a bawling feeling.
So said the Old Sailor; "Welcome back Man".

On board now. Majestic as she is, a racing seamen from distant far. What's the next port? I asked.
"Captain Sir it's Newfoundland" replied my Mate. Then Full Ahead she goes.
So said ME the Old Sailor now, "Boy what a LOVELY feeling".



Contributed by,
Capt. Rakesh Wilfred Pereira
Vessel Name: MT Eurochampion 2004



Lobster Roast dish from our Master Chef Mr. Premnath Paviathan : M.V. Esperanza N



Sketch by Mr. Umesh Venugopala Pillai
3/Engg : M. V. APL Antwerp



Image courtesy - Capt. Raman Kapoor on-board
M.T. Orient Star

Seafarers' Contribution

Touching lives - forging bonds

It was just another evening when one of our team member got the news that his brother had met with a serious accident and that there was a possibility of amputating his leg. Our colleague was obviously very disturbed and felt helpless being so far away and requested for an early sign-off. He broke down completely and was cursing his fate that in his last ship too he had to get off just after 4 days of signing on as he lost his father.

The Esperanza N family came together to find a solution for our colleague's problem and help him overcome it. We contributed to raise money for his brother's medical expenses. We managed to put together a huge amount and when we broke the news to our colleague, he just

couldn't hold back his tears. We realized that seafarers are made special and have big hearts and that friendship does not always begin and end at the gangway!

A special thanks to Team Synergy, particularly Mr. Saji Kumar from Singapore office and Manning department in Chennai as they not only approved the special allotment for him, but also approved an increment in salary for our team member, which was unprecedented and was a great help for him. As our seniors on-board tell us - no other company would have done this. This really makes me proud to be a Synergian!!

Contributed by,
Mr. Vinod Bajirao Patil
Rank : Tr. OS



C/O Mr. Mohan Winning Gold Medal in Tamil Nadu state kick boxing tournament.



This beautiful hand-made sailing boat is created by Mr. Gerald Fernando for his son.

Vessel Name: Seroja Empat



Trainees (Deck, Eng, EI Cadet and Trainee OS) with their equator crossing certificate and also the photo by Station board EMPAT, who christened these seafarers into the seafaring community.
Chief Engineer Suresh Kumar, who is the senior most on board is dressed as King Neptune.

Synergy at Work and at Play!



Synergy emerged winners in the recently concluded Mainers Premier League (Lloydsregister Cup) 2015 in Singapore. The keenly contested tournament saw a total of 26 shipping companies participate. After a patchy start to the tournament, Team Synergy peaked just at the right time with stellar performances with both bat and ball. They made it through to the finals after a few nail biting finishes in the group stages. The finals saw the two best teams from the group stages of the tournament – Eastern Pacific and Synergy Group. The much anticipated clash, turned out to be a one sided affair with Synergy piling up a massive total on the back of some great batting by the top order. The bowlers finished off the job as they realized that sticking to the line and length was the only way to get past the opposition's strong batting line up and bowled with good control to bowl out the opposition, thus clinching Synergy Group maiden victory in this prestigious tournament.

It was an exciting season in Chennai with a 30-over 'Corporate Premier League' (CPL) occupying the weekends of our Cricket Team. Organized and conducted by Blue Sky Organisation, the tournament took place at various venues across the city and saw the top corporate cricketing teams vying for the coveted cup!

The tournament attracted teams from most of the major companies including TCS, Infosys, Synergy, HCL and Amazon. Clearly, cricket draws folks and what

be a better way than doing this: a keenly contested cricket tournament. Winning six out of the eight matches that we played, Synergy emerged at the top of the table to come out as the tournament winners.

The euphoric team not only lifted the championship cup but also had within their Super-11 the 'Man of the Match' of the final game that they played against CLRI. Susil Kumar bagged this honour for his outstanding performance with both bat and ball - 37 runs and three for, on a green top pitch. Three cheers for the winners!



- In the Team -
 Pradeep Mohan (Capt)
 Susil Kumar (V. Capt)
 Gaurav Singh
 Ilaiyakumar
 Solomon Robert
 Siva Prakash
 Pradeep Raman (Wkt)
 Anand Kumar
 Kalesh Kumar
 Naresh Kumar
 Kesavan
 Padmanabhan
 Krishnamoorthy
 Surendar R

A special thanks to Mr. Devendran. D (IT, Executive) for braving the Chennai summer and being there to support the team in every match!

CSR Initiative



Children of our team members in Singapore participated in 'Run for Nepal' which was organized by the NPS International School. The proceeds from this marathon for charity were handed over to the International Red Cross for the relief and rehabilitation of those affected by the destructive earthquake which struck Nepal recently! The children wore colours of the Nepalese flag to show solidarity to those affected!

Synergy Group participated with Singapore Shipping Association on Young Executive Group Community Outreach's Visit to Ju Eng Home for Senior Citizens.



Synergians shine on the golf course



Capt. Ashish Joshi



Capt. Rajesh Unni

The first edition of the 'Singapore Maritime Golf Challenge' was held on 16th Feb 2015 at the Orchid Country Club along the truly picturesque waterways of the Sungei Seletar Reservoir. A total of 140 talented golfers from Singapore's Maritime fraternity participated in this keenly contested event. Capt. Rajesh Unni was the second runner-up at this prestigious golf tournament.

Capt. Ashish Joshi, Ex. X-press Yerupaja, won a charity golf tournament at GBGC Vadodara on 26 Jan 2015. The proceeds of the event will be used for the education of underprivileged children!

