

## DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2003 – 118



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**THIS NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY :**



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## **EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS**

### **U.S. judge reviews 8 sailors' claims**

A judge must decide whether the families of eight Filipino sailors killed in a boiler explosion on the cruise ship Norway can pursue their wrongful-death suits in the United States or in the Philippines.

Norwegian Cruise Line insists the sailors' Filipino contracts require arbitration of death and injury claims in the Philippines, but attorneys for crew members say maritime law dating back to the 1700s guarantees U.S. court review.

Eight sailors died as a result of a boiler room explosion aboard the 310-meter liner May 25, and 18 crew members were injured in the blast at the ship's Miami dock. At least one of the victim's families is suing for \$1 billion in damages.

The cruise company wants the dispute to be treated as a matter of contract law under the Philippine Overseas Employment Act (POEA). Seamen contend Norwegian is trying to avoid its responsibility. U.S. District Judge Patricia Seitz, allowed interested groups to file friend of the court papers by Tuesday to give the issue a full airing. She won't decide the issue before August 15.

The 4,000-member Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers and the Florida Admiralty Trial Lawyers submitted papers supporting the seamen and accusing Norwegian of trying to manipulate Philippines law in its favor. "Economic slavery has been substituted for forced servitude," the admiralty lawyers wrote. The

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sailors "are barely literate seamen, basically regarded by their master as fungible goods to be discarded at will when no longer considered of use to the shipowner."

Calls to the cruise ship company's attorneys for comment Wednesday were not returned.

Philippine officials have told U.S. courts that the contract was intended to set minimum standards for wages and hours but not govern injury claims, said David Pollack, an attorney who has represented seamen in other cases.

"Anybody who's been on a cruise knows the working conditions and the hours and the wages of crew members, and they know that there's a reason why they get them from overseas," he said. "We like our inexpensive vacations. That's sort of the sordid, unspoken reality."

### **MSV Regalia to complete work for Norsk Hydro**

Prosafe has announced that Norsk Hydro has not exercised the remaining options for use of the MSV Regalia on the Fram field in the North Sea, so the rig will go off contract on 06 August.

MSV Regalia will thereafter be taken to a yard in order to prepare for the subsea well intervention work for Statoil that will start early September.

### **Heerema installs Valhall North Flank topsides**

The Valhall North Flank topside was lifted on to the jacket Thursday 17 July.

Heerema, under supervision by BP representatives carried out the lift from the heavy lifting vessel Thialf.

The subsequent welding and other work on deck were performed according to schedule.

The entire operation was completed in less than 48 hours and Thialf left the field early Sunday 20 July heading to its next client, this time in the Danish sector.

The platform will remain unmanned until the drilling rig West Epsilon is moved from Valhall Flank South to the North location late July or early August. First oil is planned during 1 quarter 2004.

### **DARPS debuts in Brazil**

Kongsberg Seatex reports that its Differential Absolute and Relative Positioning System (DARPS) has been used in Brazil for the first time. The high-tech positioning system from Kongsberg Seatex has been used on a wide-scale in the North Sea for several years now, and made its South American debut in an offshore loading operation in the Marlin field, Campos Basin, Brazil.

The operation was carried out successfully using the DARPS 200 system by the Petrobras FPSO P-37 and the Transpetro shuttle tanker Cartola Alves.

Following the operation, all of Petrobras FPSOs in the Campos Basin and a significant number of

Transpetro shuttle tankers will be fitted with DARPS 200 for use in daily offshore loading operations.

The DARPS product line (100/102/200) combines high-performance sensors for the reliable and accurate absolute and relative positioning of two vessels such as a shuttle tanker and a FPSO/FSU.

Key features of all DARPS models are multiple source capability for differential corrections including DGPS/DGLONASS from Inmarsat, Spotbeam and IALA. The system includes UKOOA compliant GPS/GLONASS data quality control, a graphical user interface and a 12-channel, all-in-view GPS and GLONASS (DARPS 200) receiver.

## **Noordhoek Offshore expands its capabilities**

Noordhoek Offshore BV in the Netherlands has expanded its survey capabilities and capacity, and has appointed Peter Boon as Operations Manager and Brian Beard as Survey Manager have been made. Both were formerly with NeSA and Thales GeoSolutions in Rotterdam.

## **EDT Towage converting former Geco Sapphire to DP3 ROV/survey vessel**

Cyprus-based EDT Towage is converting the former seismic vessel Geco Sapphire into a high specification DP3 ROV/survey vessel at a shipyard in Poland. The vessel is currently at the Northern Yard in Gdansk, and will be re-named EDT Protea.

The vessel is being lengthened, will have a new helideck installed, along with a ROV hangar, 50 tonne crane capable of working at depths of 2,500m and will have accommodation for 70-90 persons.

Once completed she will have a deck area in the region of 600 square metres.

## **41-jarige verdronken bij zeiltrip voor Wenduine**

Voor de kust van Wenduine is zaterdagmiddag een 41-jarige man uit Oudenaarde verdronken. De man L.M. was samen met een neefje en een nichtje gaan varen met zijn zeilboot. De jongen en het meisje waren in de zee gesprongen om te zwemmen. Ze geraakten echter in de problemen en hun oom sprong hen achterna. De man raakte echter zelf in de problemen. De drie drenkelingen werden uit het water gehaald door de opvarenden van een tweede zeilboot die hulp kwamen bieden. Maar voor de 41-jarige schipper was het te laat. Hij kon niet meer worden gereanimeerd. Ook een MUG-team dat ter plaatse kwam, kon de man niet meer redden.

## **Chinese opvarende valt in ruim, KNRM haalt patiënt af met hulp van ambulancepersoneel.**

Aan boord van een Chinese bulkcarrier, gemeerd in ankergebied 4, is zaterdag 2 juli een Chinese opvarende in het ruim gevallen. Door kustwachtcentrum Den Helder is de bemanning van de reddingboot Kapiteins Hazewinkel om 11.15 uur gealarmeerd, inclusief de ambulance die twee broeders met de KNRM liet meevaren.



**Foto : de bemanning van de reddingboot Kapiteins Hazewinkel brengen de patient vanboord naar de gereedstaande ziekenwagen**

In eerste instantie zag het ongeval er ernstig uit, maar toen opstappers Wim en Paul samen met een ambulance broeder aan boord van de bulkcarrier waren bleken de verwondingen aan het lichaam mee te vallen. Wel had de man een behoorlijke hoofdwond. Aan boord werd de man verder onderzocht, gestabiliseerd en een infuus ingebracht waarna de patiënt werd overgebracht aan boord van de Kapiteins Hazewinkel.

Om 13.30 uur meerde de reddingboot af in de Berghaven en werd de man door de ambulance naar het Leyenburg ziekenhuis gebracht voor verdere behandeling.



Met vragen kunt U contact opnemen met **Ron Zegers**, PR-Coördinator, en bemanning reddingboot "Kapiteins Hazewinkel"

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De Koninklijke Nederlandse Redding Maatschappij wordt uitsluitend door vrijwillige bijdragen in stand gehouden





Massive cranes, tilt the rear of the sunken cargo ship Tricolor, center, from the floor of the English Channel Sunday, Aug. 3, 2003.



The Norwegian-owned ship which sank in December while hauling around 3,000 luxury cars, is to be chopped up into nine pieces as part of a tricky procedure to lift the vessel out of the world's busiest sea lane.

## **Berging Tricolor: Wrakstuk al half boven water**

De bergers van het Noorse autoschip Tricolor halen momenteel het eerste wrakstuk naar boven. Als alles naar wens verloopt, zal het wrakstuk zondagavond of maandagmorgen in Zeebrugge arriveren.

Het stuk steekt volgens woordvoerder Lars Walder van de Combinatie Berging Tricolor al half boven water. Het wordt momenteel verder opgetild met de drijvende kranen Asian Hercules II en Rambiz. Na wat voorbereidingswerk kan het dan naar Zeebrugge worden gebracht.

Het tillen zou momenteel probleemloos verlopen. Volgens Walder zal het wrakstuk duidelijk zichtbaar zijn als het in Zeebrugge arriveert. Ook een deel van de lading, 3000 nieuwe personenwagens, zullen zichtbaar zijn. Zij hangen momenteel in het ruim.

Het Noorse autoschip Tricolor zonk op 14 december 2002 voor de kust van Duinkerken nadat het door een containerschip werd aangevaren. Alle bemanningsleden werden gered maar het schip kantelde en zonk. Omdat het wrak in de vaarroute naar Zeebrugge en Antwerpen ligt, moet het worden verwijderd. De berging zou tot oktober duren. Alle onderdelen worden naar Zeebrugge gebracht, waar ze worden verwerkt. De verwerking in Zeebrugge zou een jaar duren.

## **CASUALTY REPORTING**

### **Freighter-Ferry Collision Off Bahamas Kills 4**

A cargo ship and a ferry boat collided off the Bahamian island of Eleuthera on Saturday, killing four people and injuring at least 16 others, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

Rescuers from the Coast Guard, the Royal Bahamas Defense Force and the Royal Bahamas Police

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ended a search for more victims about midday in an area nine miles southwest of Eleuthera, believing everyone on the two ships was accounted for.

The Coast Guard had said six people died in the collision but later amended the toll to four. Sixteen people were evacuated by helicopter from the scene to medical facilities in the Bahamian capital of Nassau, officials said. The 98-foot (32-meter) ferry Sea Hauler, carrying about 195 people on its regular route from Eleuthera to Nassau, and the 170-foot cargo vessel United Star collided before 1:30 a.m. EDT Saturday, Coast Guard spokeswoman Carleen Drummond said.

U.S. Coast Guard units responded to the accident scene from Miami and Clearwater, Florida, and searched the area with ships, an airplane and helicopters. The Bahamas, a nation of about 290,000, is made up of some 700 islands and cays stretching through the Atlantic Ocean from just off Florida's east coast to just north of Haiti. The United Star took some passengers and crew from the Sea Hauler on board and was towing the crippled ferry to Nassau, the Coast Guard said.

There was no immediate word on the cause of the accident and Bahamian authorities were investigating, Drummond said



Happy passengers wave to family and friends as they arrive at the Prince George Wharf in Nassau harbour Saturday, Aug. 2, 2003 after being picked up off the [MV Sea Hauler](#) which collided with the [MV United Star](#) in waters southwest of Eleuthera in the Bahama Island chain

## Five rescued after ferry crash

Five men had to be rescued from the River Mersey after a ferry crash early on Sunday. The men became trapped after the Irish ferry collided with the 12 Quays ferry terminal in Birkenhead, just before 0600 BST.

A 50-metre section of the terminal broke away after the Norse Merchant ship [Mersey Viking](#) struck it. The men - shore workers who were on a gantry at the terminal at the time - were eventually rescued by the Pier Head rescue boat.

Rescue boat crew members later joined the New Brighton lifeboat to secure the section of the

terminal, which was swept away on a falling tide.



Top : The **MERSEY VIKING** at file picture dated 31-12-2002 – photo : John Luxton ©

It was later towed ashore at Wallasey by a tug boat. An investigation is being carried out to establish how badly damaged the ferry terminal is. It is not clear how badly the on-river terminal has been damaged or how much disruption there will be to Norse Merchant sailings between Birkenhead, Dublin and Belfast.

## **SHIPYARD NEWS**

### **Keppel to deliver Maersk semi-submersible ahead of schedule**

Keppel Offshore & Marine Limited has announced that it will deliver a new generation semi-submersible rig to Maersk Contractors two weeks ahead of schedule in mid August. The rig was named **Lider** recently in a ceremony that was attended by more than 1,000 guests at Caspian Shipyard Company (CSC) in Baku, Azerbaijan. Mr Tage Bundgaard, President of Maersk Contractors, said, "We are proud of this new highly advanced rig. We fully expect Lider to prove its state-of-the-art capabilities during the upcoming contract with Exxon Azerbaijan and other operators in the Caspian region. Caspian Shipyard Company has proved to be a very proficient rig constructor and we hope that this will be the first of many Maersk rigs to be working in the Caspian Sea."

Lider will be contracted to Exxon Azerbaijan Operating Company LLC and Chevron Overseas Petroleum Azerbaijan Limited for a three-year drilling programme.

## **Pan United wins contract to build two anchor handlers for Tidewater**

Pan United shipyard in Singapore has secured an order to build a pair of anchor handlers for Tidewater. Delivery of the two vessels is scheduled for the last quarter of 2004 and the first quarter 2005.

## **Keppel Offshore & Marine secures new contract for AHTS**

Keppel Corporation Limited, through its offshore and marine units in Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd (Keppel O&M), has clinched contracts worth a total of S\$45 million. Keppel Singmarine has won two contracts to build two 45-tonne bollard pull harbour tugs for PSA Corporation Ltd and a 5,500 BHP AHTS vessel for Hadi H Al-Hamman of Saudi Arabia. The latter contract is the fourth vessel to be contracted by this owner since the first was delivered in early 2002.

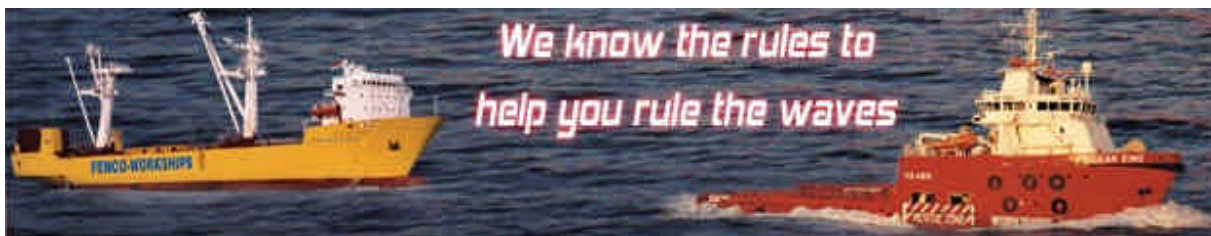
## **One Equity injection saved HDW**

THE parlous state of German shipbuilder HDW was revealed last night when Helmut Burmester, head of the company's executive board, admitted that the yard had been saved from insolvency at the beginning of the year by a fresh injection of €30M (\$33.7M) from owner One Equity Partners. A loan of €100M from One Equity was also extended, which gave HDW sufficient liquidity to carry on, Burmester said. However, the yard has lost about €500M, which has been transferred to former parent Babcock-Borsig. Burmester conceded that the attempt to win an order for four container ships from Münchmeyer Petersen by reducing workers' wages was intended to buy time, even though construction would have involved a loss of more than €54M, of which half would have been covered by the wage cut. HDW's future has narrowed to one of five options: continued involved by US-based One Equity Partners or take-over by French groups Thales or DCN, by Northrop Grumman in the US or by fellow German group ThyssenKrupp.

## **ROUTE, PORTS & SERVICES**

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## **Fugro awarded Sakhalin II pre-construction survey**

Fugro has announced that Fugro Project Ltd, Moscow, has been awarded the contract to undertake a pre-construction survey off Sakhalin Island, off the east coast of Russia, as part of the Sakhalin II Project. The value of the contract is €6.5 million. The contract was awarded by the project's developer, Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd (SEIC). Sakhalin II is believed to be the largest single integrated oil and gas project ever undertaken, and will enable year-round production of oil and gas from the Piltun Astokhskoye and Lunskeye fields.

Fugro's tasks are to survey seven proposed pipeline/cable routes from three offshore sites to shore off the north east coast of Sakhalin and two proposed pipeline/cable routes from shore to a tanker loading facility off the southern coast of Sakhalin. The survey will require the use of a suite of survey systems working in water depths from 0-48m. The two offshore vessels involved are Fugro's 64m Setouchi Surveyor and the Trias, a 71m vessel operated by Fugro's Sakhalin based partner Pacific Engineering Company (PECO). A third vessel, PECO's 11m Geomarine, will survey the shallow water sections of the routes.

## **Stolt Offshore awarded contracts in Trinidad**

Stolt Offshore has announced that it has been awarded two contracts by BHP Billiton, one for the installation of an offshore platform and the other for the installation of pipelines in Trinidad and Tobago. The contracts, valued at approximately \$60 million, are for the installation of one shallow water offshore platform and approximately 50 miles of pipelines of eight to thirty-inch diameter in the Angostura field. The work will be undertaken using the derrick lay barge DLB 801 during the fourth quarter of 2003 and the middle of 2004.

## **BP Vietnam awards two-year vessel/ROV contract**

PTSC Production Services and Canyon Offshore have entered into a two-year contract with BP Vietnam to provide a DP vessel, ROVs, survey and positioning, and engineering solutions to support BP's operations offshore Vietnam. Under the terms of the contract Canyon Offshore in conjunction with Petroleum Technical Services Company (PTSC), a division of Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation, will mobilize Scorpion 25, a work class ROV and a DP2 vessel (supplied by PTSC), primarily to carry out Inspection, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) on the 400km Nam Con Son pipeline and the Lan Tay Jacket. The Lan Tay Field is located in approximately 127m of water, 400km offshore Vung Tau province in southern Vietnam. PTSC/Canyon will make the vessel, ROV and support personnel available on a call-out basis to carry out planned and emergency well head intervention tasks.

A planned intervention has already taken place in June for which as part of the additional engineering services PTSC/Canyon provide, PTSC/Canyon designed and managed the build of a purpose built 'A' Frame to deploy BP's intervention running tool and in conjunction with ROV intervention, recover a well head control pod.

## **Bridge could divert cargo from S'pore**

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### Barges can pass under the bridge being built to replace the Causeway, connecting both ports in Johor



THE gap under a new bridge being built to replace the Malaysian side of the Causeway could be used to move cargo between two ports in southern Johor.

This opens up the possibility that some shipments could be diverted from Singapore.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad raised the likelihood of cargo movements under the bridge between the Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) and the Johor Port at Pasir Gudang yesterday at a ceremony to award the construction contract.

The RM1.1-billion (S\$510-million) contract to build the bridge and a railway line across the Johor Strait was awarded to private consortium Gerbang Perdana. The project is slated for completion by December 2005.

'With this removal of the Causeway, water will then flow through and boats not above 25m high can now cross from west to east. 'It will also facilitate probably moving some cargo from Pasir Gudang to PTP, if it is worthwhile,' he said. Shipping industry observers said the idea of cargo shipments is viable as the 25m gap under the bridge is sufficient for small ships or feeder barges to pass through. The journey between the two ports could take about three hours using barges. PTP is located on the west coast of Johor, while Johor Port is east of the Causeway.

'It is feasible as a feeder could pass under it and the distance is much shorter than going to Singapore,' said Mr S. C. Chan, the Singapore-based regional director of Hong Kong line OOCL.

Linking the two Johor ports could mean that some cargo ships could bypass Singapore. A vessel from Japan, for example, could drop off its cargo in Pasir Gudang and then turn back, instead of having to go to Singapore to unload. Barges could then take the cargo across the Johor Strait to PTP from where another ship would pick it up and take it to its destination. Besides saving time and fuel, shipping lines could be enticed to berth in the cheaper Johor ports instead of Singapore.

This is the first time Malaysian officials have said that the bridge could help its ports. The bridge project has previously been billed as being good for the environment as it allows for the natural flow of tides in the straits again after 80 years. It was also promoted as enabling pleasure craft to sail through, while cutting the time for vehicles to cross between the two countries as a bigger customs, immigration and quarantine (CIQ) complex would also be built. Singapore has decided to keep its section of the Causeway intact. When asked at another function yesterday whether the bridge would boost its port business, Dr Mahathir said: 'Yes, of course it will improve it. Also, it will improve travel because we are moving the CIQ in so that people can travel faster.' The plan to link up the two ports ties in with Malaysia's ambition to make southern Johor a regional transportation hub that includes an expanded role for Senai airport, said a shipping analyst. 'It is all coming along nicely as this cargo plan would boost the connectivity between PTP and Pasir Gudang,' he said.

## NAVY NEWS

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An undated Navy photo shows the Kidd-class destroyer **USS Chandler**. US-based VSE Corp. has won a US Navy contract worth 8.1 million US dollars to overhaul four Kidd-class destroyers destined for Taiwan

## MOVEMENTS

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The brandnew **SERENADE OF THE SEAS** seen her at the Noordzeekanaal enroute Amsterdam.

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Photo's :  
Joop Marechal ©



The **HOS PIONEER** is the former **CANDY PIONEER** seen here at Port Fourchon July 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Photo : Herbert Westerwal – Westcoasting ©



The **NORMAND MARINER** making a "sail past" alongside the **Seaway Falcon** Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Photo : Oddgeir Refvik ©





**En Avant 5**, towing the Muller transport **pontoon 5511** loaded with Conoco unit bound for Immingham, England. Pusher tug Orion assisting till Hook of Holland.

Photo : Hans de Jong – Maritime Pictures ©

## AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS



Lt. Cmdr. Dan 'Dino' Martin, Lead Solo of the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Team, flies his F-18 fighter through a vapor bubble his jet created, Saturday, Aug. 2, 2003 at the 53rd General Motors Cup on Lake Washington in Seattle.

## RIJNMOND WEATHER

Vooruitzichten van maandag t/m donderdag:

**STANDVASTIG ZOMERWEER!**

Zonnig en warm tot zeer warm met een middagtemperatuur eerst nog rond 30 graden. Langs de kust zal het door een windje van zee veel aangener zijn.

© Ed Aldus 2003	MA-04	DI-05	WO-06	DO-07
Maximumtemperatuur:	30	30	29	29
Minimumtemperatuur:	15	17	17	17
Zonnekans in %:	90	90	90	90
Neerslagkans in %:	5	5	5	5
Windrichting kracht:	NO-2-4	NO-3-4	NO-3-4	NO-3-4

## .... PHOTO OF THE DAY ....



The pilot tender **ENDEAVOUR** operating at Flushing pilot station – photo : Jamie Reurink ©

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