

# TradeWinds

The Global Shipping News Source



## 'Obvious base': Synergy Group heads to key hub of Hamburg

*Singapore ship manager continues European expansion with new German office.*

Singapore ship manager Synergy Group has opened up a new office in Germany to cater to growing demand from shipowners there.

The Hamburg base makes it 25 offices worldwide for the group, which operates more than 500 vessels.

Synergy said Hamburg is a European maritime hub and a key location for German owners.

The base is run by subsidiary Synergy Marine Germany (SMG).

Captain Ravi Kohli, managing director of SMG and a ship management veteran, is heading the Hamburg business.

The company offers technical ship management and crewing services.

"We have seen an upsurge in demand for top-quality ship management services from European shipowners, and many of the world's leading owners are headquartered in Germany," said Martin Ackermann, Synergy Group chief commercial officer.

"Hamburg was an obvious base for us.

The opening of this office further expands our global network and allows us to provide the technology-driven ship management solutions and fleet optimisation services our clients rely on," he added.

Singapore-headquartered Synergy, which has offices in 13 countries, now employs more than 18,000 seafarers.

Group founder and chief executive Rajesh Unni said: We see our new Hamburg office as an investment in the future, one that places Synergy at the heart of European shipping."

In September, Synergy agreed to buy Maersk Tankers' technical management division in a major expansion.

This involves 82 product tankers and close to 3,300 employees.

The Synergy fleet already included the most complex LNG and LPG carriers, containerships of above 20,000 teu, tankers, car carriers and bulkers.