

Fog Horn

Synergy Group Newsletter

Issue 03/2014

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A picture speaks a thousand words... In our next year's calendar we want to display snapshots from the Synergian seafarer's life on board. We invite pictures from all our staff for the Synergy Calendar. Deadline - 15 October 2014. Get your Camera out and Freeze an interesting moment for all of us. Send a high resolution picture to editorialteam@synergymarine.sg



Follow us by finding us there as 'Synergy Marine Group'



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MD's Note



and **Respect** , day in and day out. For each one of us it is of paramount importance that safety be our focus at all times, together we shall strive to become truly world class in our safety performance and culture.

Safety and Operational integrity should be ingrained in the work culture of each Synergian, which essentially means that they need not be redefined each time a team member joins a vessel – and yes that is possible! We have to be relentless in our *pursuit of excellence!*

remarkable rescue of 322 persons including children and infants in the Mediterranean – it is events like these which **make us feel proud to be a seafarer.**

I hope you will enjoy this edition of Fog horn.

Be safe and blessed.

-Rajesh M. Unni

‘Safety and Operational integrity should be ingrained in the work culture of each Synergian’

Dear Colleagues,

A few days ago, I came across an incredible and intriguing performance study of the US aviation industry; In 2002, 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2011 there were **NO** fatalities on any scheduled US airline flights. Simply put, there were no passenger or crew fatalities in each of these years during as many as 10,276,107 scheduled flights each year! Startling figures those – the first question that came to my mind was how can our industry achieve these safety records?!

Safety is at the heart of everything that we do at the Synergy Group, Safer ships is essentially about our seafarers who live by our core values of **Safety, Empathy, Integrity, Synergy, Transparency**

Among quite a few good things in the last three months, I am particularly proud of the fact that the Synergy group worked very closely with the *International Maritime Organization* in celebrating the fourth edition of the *Day of the seafarer* and our structured campaign to spread awareness about this day was a great success. I take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the wonderful contributions which kept pouring in through the campaign.

The support and appreciation which we received from **Mr. Koji Sekimizu** – the honourable *Secretary General* ,and the staff at the **IMO** was indeed heartening.

A special mention for our colleagues Capt. S.E. Patla , C/E Mr. Ramesh Keshavan and all staff on-board M.V. Jupiter Bay for the

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 for 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, drawing by children, poems, get together or just jokes! Write to us at editorialteam@synergymarine.sg

Saviors at Sea

At 2230 hours on 6th June 2014 - M.V.Jupiter Bay which was en route to Gibraltar from Tunis was requested by the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Rome to respond to a humanitarian search and rescue operation in the Mediterranean involving a large number of people in small boats.

Our esteemed colleague Capt. S.E. Patla who was in command of the good vessel with an entire Indian complement on-board, responded immediately and contacted the senior management office at owners and managers offshore

By 2330 hours Jupiter Bay was at the rendezvous point, in position to rescue some 322 persons, including women and children, some of whom were mere infants.

To board safely this number of people of different ages and abilities in the dark, required the support and ingenuity from all crew members supported by the emergency teams ashore, all in the finest traditions of the merchant marine.

Upholding the best traditions of seafaring the crew ensured that all 322 people of various age and ability boarded safely and were provided with food, water and amenities in line with the company procedures.

Jupiter Bay was then requested to proceed to the Italian Port of Pozzallo where she arrived at 1936 hours on June 7, to be met by a Coast Guard cutter with two doctors who carried out medical examinations of all the rescued. All the survivors were then safely disembarked with the two doctors and taken ashore by tugs.



Seen here is A/B Mr. Sanjay Bhatt comforting a traumatized child.



M/M Mr. Susilan Fernando on his way to reuniting a rescued child with his mother!



This indeed was an exemplary humanitarian act and our heartiest congratulations to the entire team Jupiter Bay

Going beyond compliance

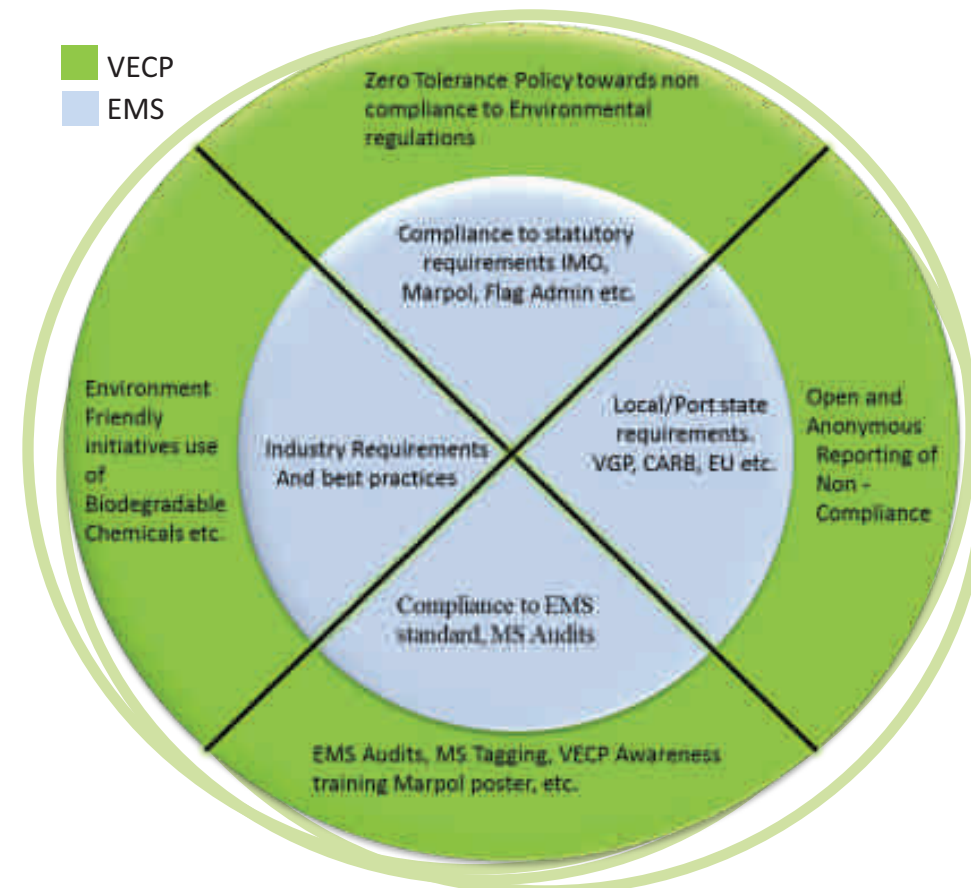
Environmental management is integral to our corporate culture. In line with which a dedicated 'Environmental Management Cell' has been formed to share information and assist the ships and shore management to achieve compliance with the fast changing International Environmental regulations.

A step further - Synergy has initiated VECP (Voluntary Environmental Compliance Plan) to go beyond just compliance to environmental regulations, but also exceeding them.

As a part of VECP Synergy has initiated:

- Zero Tolerance Policy on noncompliance to environmental regulations,
- Open reporting system on Environmental violations and potential violations.
- A designated Environmental compliance officer (ECO) onboard and ashore who can access brief the top management on Environmental related issues.
- Environmental awareness program on various environmental regulations like MARPOL, OPA 90, VGP, CARB, EU etc..
- Other initiatives include voluntary EMS ship audits, use of eco-friendly chemicals and consumables onboard, Energy Efficiency measures and many more to achieve our vision.

The Environmental Management cell is headed by Mr. S. Swaminathan who has 23 years of experience in the industry. Having sailed as a Chief Engineer, he has spent considerable time ashore with the classification society – Bureau Veritas earlier as a Marine surveyor, ISM, ISPS, ISO, EMS Lead Auditor and MLC Inspector. He was the deputy country manager for ships in service at BV before he joined Synergy.



With inputs from:
Mr. S. Swaminathan.

Synergy at Stamford

We are delighted to announce the opening of the Synergy Marine US office in Stamford, Connecticut – the heart of a growing maritime community and just an hour's drive from the JFK International airport and New York city.

Our adherence to the Quality Management System means that we constantly evaluate and prioritise the long term interests of our clients and provide personalised Ship Management Services. The opening of our Stamford office brought the total number of global Synergy Group locations to four, ensuring that we are ideally placed to service the needs of our esteemed clients worldwide.

We also see this as an opportunity to further grow our business globally and are excited to have Jatinder Sandhu join the Synergy team to lead our effort in the US.



A job well done! -----

A remarkable achievement by teams on board vessels Seroja Enam, Seroja Tiga and Seroja Empat who were involved with a project requiring extensive modification in way of the water ballast tanks.

In-depth tool box meetings and risk assessment was carried out at each step. The task was completed with ZERO injuries, NIL defects and within the TARGET time.

Team work, motivation and focus were the keys to successful completion of this mammoth project. The class surveyor who inspected the executed project based on drawings and plans provided by naval architects was all praise for the team.

We salute the professionalism, team spirit and safety consciousness of all staff on-board.

This indeed was a job well done!

(With inputs from C/E Mr. Gulshan Singh (Seroja Enam) & C/E Mr. Rajiv Yadav (Seroja Tiga).



Meet the Team - Synergy at Delhi



Our team in Delhi consists of a diverse group of individuals. Each team member brings something special to the table and is always keen to share their expertise and experiences with others.

Their untiring efforts have resulted in our ever increasing pool of dedicated seafarers from the National Capital region and adjoining areas.

1 Name: Mr. Ram Prakash
Designation: Office executive
Hobbies: Playing cricket and Photography

2 Name: Capt. Tarun Kumar
Hobbies: Playing Guitar and Reading

3 Name: Capt. Charanjiv Singh Nalwa
Designation: Head of manning dept. (Delhi)
Hobbies: Listening to music and Travelling.

4 Name: Mr. Rahul
Designation: Office assistant
Hobbies: Travelling and Listening to music

5 Name: Ms. Kalpana Uniyal
Designation: Office executive
Hobbies: Singing and Reading

6 Name: Ms. Rijjoo Chopra
Designation: Fleet personnel executive
Hobbies: Cooking and Painting

7 Name: Mr. Kamal Singh
Designation: Office executive
Hobbies: Watching sports and Reading

8 Name: Ms. Vandana Arora
Designation: Fleet personnel executive
Hobbies: Watching movies and Listening to music

Synergy Group's foray into Gas Segment

Opportunity

In tandem with large discoveries of shale-related natural gas, new technologies (fracking and horizontal drilling) have led to Natural Gas production increase from 2007 to 2012 by a tremendous 417% causing the price of Natural Gas to fall. There is a massive energy price gap between Natural Gas and Crude Oil. Currently this energy – price gap stands at 330% [\$1 of Natural Gas can obtain 200,000 units of energy compared to \$1 of Crude oil which garners only 60,000 units of energy]. This means that in near future there will be a significant shift from Crude Oil to Natural Gas consumption and transportation (Less Crude transportation means less VLCC and more Gas Transportation means more VLGC – Very Large Gas Carriers including LNG carriers).

When comparing usage patterns in the USA, crude oil is an energy source mainly used only by transportation sector (71%) while industrial sector uses about 20% and power generation and commercial use is negligible. Natural Gas in contrast is a much more diversified energy source in terms of use (Power Generation, residential and commercial end-use 30% each). Natural gas consumption in transportation sector also increased by 22% in last 5 years.

In India LPG consumption has gone up by 44% from 2007 to 2013 and projected to increase as rural consumption picks up. By 2020 Natural Gas demand is projected to double to 520 million cubic meters per day from current levels. **We are already partnering with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).**

To participate in this huge and exciting opportunity in India and world-wide, Synergy Group has started focusing on this sector from mid-2013. Global United Shipping covering the ship-owning and commercial management aspects and Synergy Maritime Chennai and Synergy Oceanic Cochin handling the ship management.

LPG Carriers

Fully Pressurized - These are generally the smallest type of liquefied gas carrier afloat (up to about 5,000 m3) and carry products at ambient temperatures in cylindrical or spherical steel pressure vessels designed to withstand pressures up to 20 bar. They are not fitted with re-liquefaction plant and represent a simple cost-effective means of transporting LPGs and chemical gases to the smaller gas terminals.

Semi-Pressurized and Ethylene - These vessels are fitted with a refrigeration plant that provides a fully refrigerated ability while having a high design pressure for the cargo tanks. Ethylene carriers are the most sophisticated of the semi-pressurized tankers and have the ability to carry not only most other liquefied gas cargoes but can also transport ethylene fully-refrigerated at its atmospheric pressure boiling point of -104°C. Cargo capacity depends on the trade for which the vessel was constructed and range from 1,500 - 15,000 m3.

Fully Refrigerated - Fully refrigerated tankers are built to carry liquefied gases at low temperature and atmospheric pressure between terminals equipped with fully refrigerated storage tanks. The tankers have prismatic-shaped cargo tanks, allowing the carriage of cargoes at temperatures as low as -48°C. The ships are typically in the range 15,000 m3 – 85,000 m3

Synergy Group's Gas Fleet

We started with our first LPG carrier in mid-2013 and have covered this sector up to the biggest LPG carrier. On 12th Aug'2014 we have taken delivery of the biggest LPG carrier in the world, the 85,800 CBM VLGC Kailash Gas.

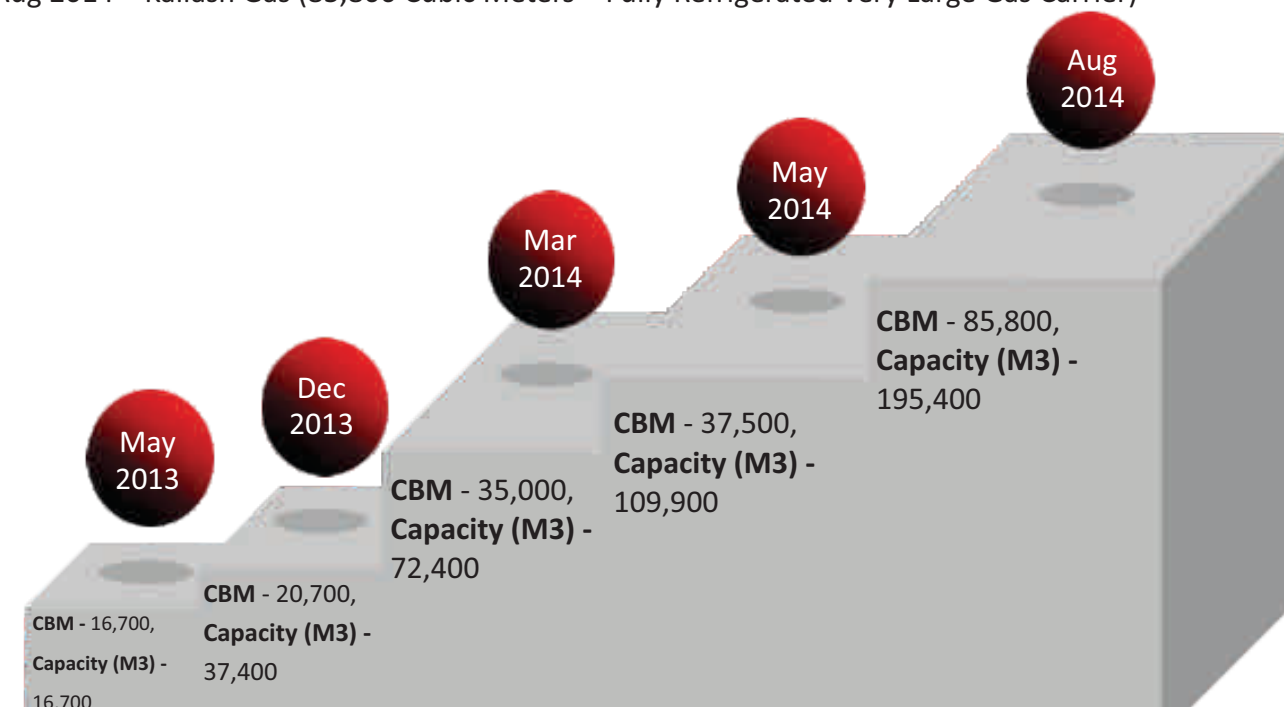
May 2013 – Nusa Bintang (16,700 Cubic Meters – Semi-Refrigerated LPG carrier)

Dec 2013 – Tirumala Gas (20,700 Cubic Meters – Semi-Refrigerated LPG carrier)

Mar 2014 – Sabarimala Gas (35,000 Cubic Meters – Fully Refrigerated LPG carrier)

May 2014 - Fuji Gas (37,500 Cubic Meters – Fully Refrigerated LPG carrier)

Aug 2014 – Kailash Gas (85,800 Cubic Meters – Fully Refrigerated Very Large Gas Carrier)

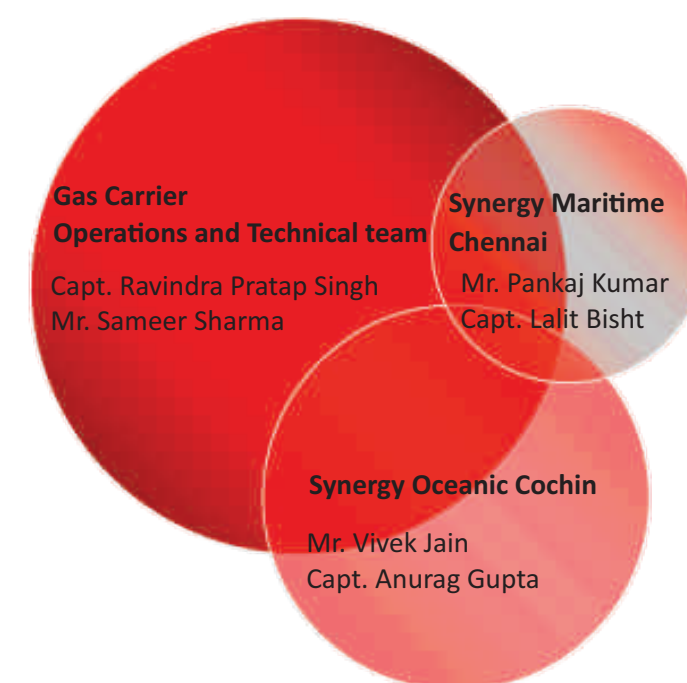


Future

Synergy Group is now gearing up for the next phase of growth entering into the exciting LNG sector.

LNG is liquefied by refrigeration to -162°C and this process is carried out ashore, before the cargo is loaded onto the ship. LNG carriers were typically in the range 80-135,000 m3 up until 2006. Since then LNG ships of over 250,000 m3 are being constructed.

The Q-Max or the Qatar Max is the largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) carrier class in the world. The Q-Max has a cargo capacity of 266,000 cubic meters. This amount of fuel can light up 70,000 homes for one year! Synergy Group is actively pursuing LNG shipping contracts and ship management opportunities for LNG carriers and LNG FSRU's.



With inputs from: Capt. Ravi Somakumar

Synergy celebrates The Day of Seafarer

At Synergy Group, we understand and appreciate the fact that seafarers are our biggest assets and that over many centuries the maritime industry has played a very significant role in the socio-economic development of humankind.

We passionately support the International Maritime Organization's decision to establish 25th June as International Day of the Seafarer taken at a diplomatic conference in Manila. Milestone revisions to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch keeping for Seafarers (STCW) and its associated Code were adopted at that conference.



Synergy recently celebrated the fourth edition of its global campaign- Day of the Seafarer. Over the last 3 years, we have embarked on diverse initiatives through social media campaigns and CSR activities through which we have been spreading awareness about seafarers and seafaring amongst people from all walks of life.

Since the day is about seafarers, we invited our colleagues both ashore and at sea - to voice their opinions, share their concerns send in their photographs and write about their experiences of life at sea.

Through their 'Day of the Seafarer' campaign, we also engaged the general public to share what seafarers have brought them and to thank seafarers for doing so. Road shows were a part of the promotion.

We utilised all our resources in an effort to reach out to people through a structured campaign on social media. We also reached out, through specially designed banners and posters put across various locations and also behind staff buses which criss-cross the cities where our offices are located and proved to be a great tool to reach out to scores of people.

The International Maritime Organization had words of appreciation for our campaign and the photograph of Mr. Koji Sekimizu the honourable Secretary General and staff at the IMO holding our specially designed badge on the day was indeed heartening for the team.

We sincerely thank all staff ashore and at sea for the wonderful contributions which kept pouring in throughout the campaign.

Proud to be a Seafarer – Proud to be a Synergian!

IMO's Secretary General and staff with Synergy's badge specially designed in support of the campaign



Celebration in our Singapore office



Celebration in our Cochin office



Celebration in our Chennai office



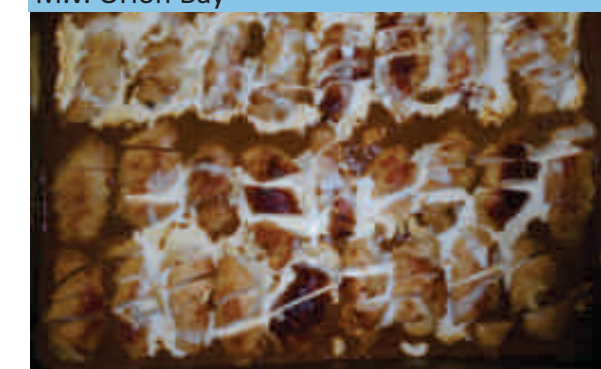
Celebration in our Delhi office

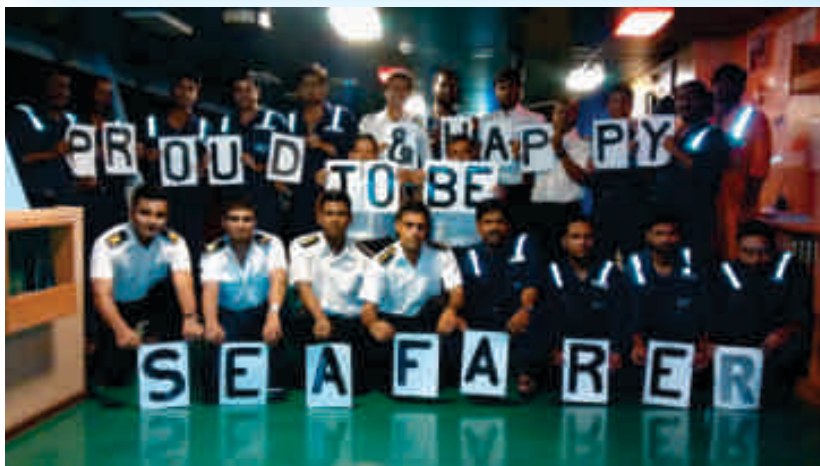


Seafarers' Day Campaign at CMC Collage



Contribution from our seafarers

Contributed by : Mr S. Chandrasekaran
M.V. IS CHINAFood Art by Ch. Cook Sasikanth Mani,
M.T. STI LexingtonFood Art by Ch. Cook Sher Singh,
M.V. Orion Bay



List of Promotions

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

C/O Aloysious Stephen Alex
C/O Elorde
C/O Jeevahan Palanivel
C/O Lawrence Jesuraj Agnel
C/O Leovyn John
C/O Mayank Handa
C/O Nikhil Panakkal
C/O Pankaj Sharma
C/O Rixon Sebastian
C/O Stephen
C/O Sunil Chaudhry

New additions to our fleet



Name of ship: VLGC Kailash Gas
DWT: 64,220
Type of ship : LPG Tanker
Year of build: 1992



Name of ship: M.V. Pacific Assurance
DWT: 2,07,842
Type of ship: Bulk Carrier
Year of build: 2014



Name of ship: M.T. STI DAMA
DWT: 50,137
Type of ship: Chemical/Oil Products Tanker
Year of build: 2014



Name of ship: LPG Fuji Gas
DWT: 29,458
Type of ship: LPG Tanker
Year of build: 1995



Name of ship: M.T. STI Lexington
DWT: 49,990
Type of ship: Chemical/Oil Products Tanker
Year of build: 2014



Name of ship: M.T. STI Virtus
DWT: 50,148
Type of ship: Chemical/Oil Products Tanker
Year of build: 2014



Name of ship: M.V. Navios Gem
DWT: 1,81,336
Type of ship: Bulk Carrier
Year of build: 2014



Name of ship: M.V. Bulk Atacama
DWT: 61,384
Type of ship: Bulk Carrier
Year of build: 2014

Synergy's Annual Blood Donation Camp

Synergy Group jointly organized a blood donation camp in association with the Madras Voluntary Blood Bureau on 6th August 2014. The blood units collected from this camp were donated for the treatment of Thalassemia and Hemophilia patients who require regular blood transfusions at the Voluntary Health Services where people of modest means come for treatment!

Synergians turned out in huge numbers to support this noble cause and do their bit for giving back to the society. A total of 146 Synergians volunteered to donate blood. The CSR team and volunteers from each department worked tirelessly to make this well-organized annual event a huge success.

The collection of 101 units was unprecedented and set a new record, showing our commitment to this social cause.

We thank everyone for the overwhelming support and participation!



Touching lives

Synergy's approach to corporate social responsibility is that of using our expertise and partnerships to create a positive impact in communities.

Our vision is that of seeing a world in which children from the most impoverished segments of society have access to nutrition and education.

The Synergy Trust has identified one such segment in the form of the children of impoverished migrant labourers who have moved to Chennai(India) in search of employment from the adjoining state of Andhra Pradesh. These labourers work in the booming construction industry and dwell in clusters of shanties which've mushroomed along the Old Mahabalipuram Road also called the IT (Information Technology) corridor.

These families have little or no access to basic human needs including clean water and sanitation.

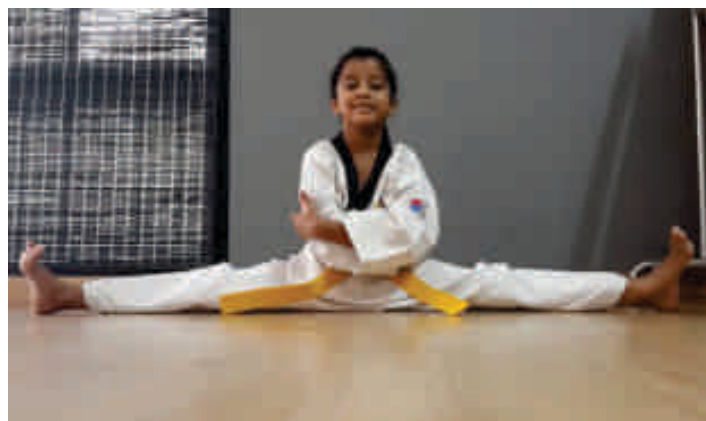
We organized a 'Summer Camp' as part of our 'Early Child care and development program' for the children of these migrant labourers at the special school for migrant's children at Egattur, Chennai which has been adopted by the Synergy Trust. A total of 110 children in the age group 6 -14 benefited under this program.

Our long term goal is to promote social inclusion and holistic development of such children.

The purpose of adopting this school is to wean away these children from being pushed into child labor at these construction sites, with both parents away working at these sites these children are also vulnerable to various other misdoings – the summer camp was an initiative to bridge the gap between the academic session (July- April) and the summer vacation (May& June), various extra-curricular activities were held for the children at this summer camp to help in the overall development of each child.



Shining Stars



Liana Manna Thomas, Class 1, D/O Capt. Thomas Zacharia. She was awarded Yellow belt in Taekwondo in March 2014.



Anahat Nalwa, Class 4, D/O Capt Charanjiv Singh. Anahat makes her first TV appearance on PTC Punjabi. She also did her first online add for an MNC – Andaz online.com



Painting by Synergian kid



The next-gen of seafarers. In the picture – Capt.Arputharaj's son, Allen- dressed as a Seafarer during his Christening ceremony.



Painting by Aarush, Class X



Mr. Ajay Krishnan R
Scored: 84%, Class XII



Ms. Shalaka.R.
Scored: 95%, Class XII



Mr. Azeezahmed. N
Scored: 92%, Class XII



Ms. Mary Celestina
Scored: 86%, Class X



Ms. Samyukthaa
Scored: 97%, Class X

Double Strike by Team (s) Synergy

Having a strong bench strength is always an added bonus for any sporting team, given the talented and enthusiastic pool of players in Synergy's Cricket team, the team decided to enter two different Cricket tournaments simultaneously and we are happy to report that both the teams have been doing exceptionally well!

In the CCL T10 Trophy 2014 – Team Synergy defeated the tournament favourites, Accenture Technology –in a closely fought match. Led by Mr. Ilaiyakumar the team had earlier defeated the MSV Group and FIS teams in this popular tennis ball tournament.

The other team lead by Mr. Gaurav Singh, is participating in the Orange T20 Cricket tournament and are sitting pretty on the top of the table after an emphatic win over Super Stars Cricket Club which brought them a bonus point, they are a win away from a spot in the semi-finals in this season ball tournament. Here's wishing both our teams all the very best for their future matches.



The 2014 FIFA World Cup

An exceptional World Cup - what a roller coaster it had been! 64 games and a 171 goals later, Germany held the coveted trophy in their hands. Apart from the winners, the tournament had seen a host of sub-plots, from a few underdog stories to Brazil's resounding loss that derailed their World Cup dream. The tournament gave the World a young superstar in Colombia's James Rodriguez and also witnessed a 31-year-old Arjen Robben perform to his best and help Netherlands reach the semis. In contrast, Cristiano Ronaldo and his Portugal side faded away with a group stage exit and England were sent packing early. Messi did well to guide his side till the final but failed to score in the final and ended on the losing side. His consolation prize was the Golden Ball but he did not look one bit elated after what transpired in the 120 minutes of football.



Synergians celebrated the finale of 2014 FIFA World Cup by supporting their favourite teams in the finals.