Seacare Authority
Sea Safe-Work Awards
2004
The Seafarers Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Authority (Seacare Authority) administers the Occupational Health and Safety (Maritime Industry) Act 1993 and the Seafarers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1992. The mission of the Seacare Authority is to take a leading role in minimising the human and financial costs of workplace injury in the Australian maritime industry.

The Seacare Authority introduced its Sea Safe-Work Awards in 2003 to recognise and reward the best positive initiatives being taken by employers, shipping operators, seafarers, health and safety committees, health and safety representative trainers, rehabilitation providers and others – all aimed at providing safe workplaces for seafarers and eliminating injury.

Nominations for the 2004 Awards were invited from across the maritime industry between April and August. Following consideration of the nominations by a judging panel of officials representing employers, employees and government, awards in three categories will be given in 2004. These are:

- OHS Leadership Award – in recognition of an employer or operator who demonstrates outstanding leadership through commitment and achievement in minimising workplace injuries and disease
- Best Solution to a Major OHS Risk – for innovation and effectiveness in developing a solution to a major OHS risk or hazard
- Best Rehabilitation and Return to Work Program – recognising the parties involved in an outstanding rehabilitation and return to work program.

This booklet contains a summary of the finalists selected in each category as well as the program for the 2004 Awards presentation to be made at Dockside, Darling Harbour, Sydney, on Wednesday 17 November 2004.
The Seacare Authority gratefully acknowledges the support of the sponsors of the 2004 Sea Safe-Work Awards.

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- ASP Ship Management Pty Ltd
- Teekay Shipping (Australia) Pty Ltd
- National Occupational Health and Safety Commission

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- CSL Australia Pty Ltd
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- Allianz Australia Insurance Ltd
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- Australian Shipowners Association
- Oceania Sea Carriers
The Seacare Authority's mission is to take a leading role in minimising the human and financial costs of workplace injury in the Australian maritime industry.

Seacare Authority Five Year Strategic Objectives
2004-05 to 2009-10

• Assist the Australian maritime industry to eliminate work related injury and disease, and to avoid work related fatalities

• Be acknowledged by the industry as a regulator of choice for workers’ compensation, rehabilitation/RTW and OHS for the Australian maritime industry

• Ensure access to a viable and attractive national scheme of workers’ compensation, rehabilitation and OHS for the Australian maritime industry

• Ensure that the legislative arrangements for national workers’ compensation and OHS for the maritime industry promote fair, efficient and effective outcomes for scheme stakeholders

• Manage an efficient and effective Seafarers Safety Net Fund

Please contact the Seacare Authority if you would like further information about the Seacare scheme. Enquires should be addressed to:

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Sea Safe-Work Awards 2004
Presentation Dinner Program

Dockside, Darling Harbour, Sydney
Wednesday, 17 November 2004

Welcome
Mr Geoff Gronow ED, Chairperson, Seacare Authority

Address and toast
Dr Brian Roche, International Maritime Organisation, London

Master of Ceremonies
Mr Campbell McComas AM

Keynote address
Mr Peter Wilkinson, Manager, National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority Implementation Team

Presentation of Awards
• OHS Leadership Award
• Best Solution to a Major OHS Risk
• Best Rehabilitation and Return to Work Program

Presentations to Sponsors
ASP Ship Management (ASP), as part of the global ASP Shipping Group, provides a full range of technical and commercial ship management services. Its main Australian operating office is in Melbourne and it employs around 480 people.

Since 1995, ASP has demonstrated significant and sustained OHS improvement with the number of lost time injuries, medical treatment cases and first aid cases all trending downwards. Integral to this performance has been the in-house development of ASP’s safety management system (SMS) and the continual improvement of the system.

The ASP SMS is part of an integrated systems approach involving all seafarers in risk management processes. A range of high quality awareness and information products, along with a suite of training modules, ensure that crew members have the skills to contribute effectively to the systematic management of OHS. In this way the SMS is offering up continuous improvement opportunities through hazard identification undertaken by ASP’s seafarers and from learning outcomes derived from incidents within the company as well as industry wide.

ASP’s SMS also features a 180-day LTI Free Award Scheme, as a means of rewarding positive OHS performance. The scheme donates money on behalf of a successful vessel’s crew to a nominated charity.

ASP’s Fleet Training Officer (FTO) delivers training programs on-board as well as carrying out hazard inspections, amongst other OHS activities. The FTO has improved operational safety along with ensuring that ASP’s seafarers are skilled to play a key role in the ongoing management of OHS. The FTO is a senior appointment, equivalent to senior deck or engineer officer, and is an initiative that demonstrates ASP’s strong commitment to OHS.

Congratulations ASP Ship Management Pty Ltd.
Mermaid Marine operates a fleet of 18 vessels providing vessel support services to the offshore oil and gas industry. The Company’s areas of operation include the North-West Shelf and Burrup Peninsula in Western Australia, as well as the Northern Territory and Bass Strait. It has corporate offices in Fremantle with supply bases in Broome and Dampier including a slipway and dry-dock. Mermaid Marine currently has 122 staff.

Mermaid Marine’s enthusiasm and endeavour to continually improve its OHS performance was recognised at the inaugural Sea Safe-Work Awards in 2003. After another year of improved OHS performance during 2004 and following major organisational change, Mermaid Marine took the opportunity to further develop its health, safety and environment management structure to address the challenges arising from the company’s rapid growth.

Mermaid Marine appointed a Quality Assurance Supervisor, as well as a Health, Safety and Environment Advisor who participates in operational activities to achieve best practice in hazard identification and risk control. The decision to allocate significant resources by appointing an officer dedicated to OHS management, as part of a quality assurance approach, is especially commendable in a medium size offshore operator like Mermaid Marine.

Congratulations Mermaid Marine Australia Ltd.
CSR Shipping has an interest in two vessels that carry over one million tonnes of dry bulk cargo around the Australian coast each year and also manages a bulk cement ship. CSR Shipping employs 105 people.

Worldwide experience shows that lifeboat training drills can present serious hazards for crews. Recently, in a fatal incident involving a vessel not covered by the Seacare scheme, two Filipino seamen were killed in a lifeboat drill off Port Hedland. In response to the hazards associated with lifeboat drills, many companies have opted to conduct drills without “crewing” the lifeboat. However, this approach denies crew members the experience and confidence to launch a lifeboat in an emergency situation.

In acknowledging this problem, the crew of CSR Shipping’s MV Goliath, led by 3rd mate Joe Abeysena, went about developing a comprehensive lifeboat training manual, revised procedure, upgraded load bearing equipment and a supporting maintenance program. The manual and procedure governs lifeboat drills in practice, markedly improving safety and crew confidence during participation in lifeboat training drills.

Congratulations CSR Shipping Ltd.
Farstad Shipping (Indian Pacific) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Farstad Shipping ASA, a public Norwegian company operating specialist vessels servicing the offshore oil and gas industry. Farstad Shipping is a leading provider of sophisticated support vessel and associated marine services to the offshore oil and gas industry world-wide with 20 ships currently operating in the Indian Pacific region. It employs around 400 Australian staff.

Farstad Shipping (Indian Pacific) identified manual handling activities as the source of around 20% of its injury incidents. In addressing this problem, Farstad developed a manual handling program based on increasing crew members’ OHS skills and awareness, in order to actively include them in hazard identification and risk assessment processes. Hazards identified, and control measures suggested, by crew members are collated by Farstad’s Health Safety Environment & Quality Department, forming the foundation of solutions which are then implemented across the Farstad fleet.

This participatory approach became a program model that Farstad now applies to four other significant maritime industry OHS issues: personal protective equipment; sun protection; galley hygiene; and job hazard analysis. Farstad’s Safety Awareness Programs provide a systematic, comprehensive and effective means of managing its OHS.

Congratulations Farstad Shipping (Indian Pacific) Pty Ltd.
Casing is a common cargo carried to and from offshore oil and gas facilities and handling it and standing on it presents significant hazards. Mermaid Marine’s method and procedure for slinging and mousing of casings, pipes and other similar cargoes results in secure, standardised bundles which can be stacked in an interlocking fashion. This provides greater stability underfoot on decks in all types of sea conditions.

Mermaid Marine’s simple yet highly effective solution was developed in consultation with the diverse range of companies and clients with which it interacts, creating a standardised approach to the handling of these common cargoes. As a result, a number of companies in the offshore oil and gas industry have adopted Mermaid Marine’s solution.

The safework procedures for slinging and mousing casings developed by Mermaid Marine effectively minimises a significant and high consequence risk.

Congratulations Mermaid Marine Australia Ltd.
Since 1996, MP Safety Management, an approved rehabilitation provider under the Seacare scheme, has been working with injured seafarers and has developed many rehabilitation and return to work programs. MP Safety Management’s Director, Melanie Parker, has sailed at sea on numerous vessels to gain an understanding of the work requirements and psychological implications of being at sea.

After suffering a serious leg injury due to slipping on deck, Brian Neilson was swiftly repatriated for medical attention by his employer, CSR Shipping. MP Safety Management then oversaw a rehabilitation program that capitalised on the cooperative and supportive approach between employer and employee.

CSR Shipping’s Rehabilitation Coordinator, David Wilks, organised an imaginative return to work program that was both convenient and beneficial to Brian’s recovery. CSR Shipping’s smart decision to find suitable duties for Brian in another Division of the CSR Group was a key feature of his rehabilitation, ensuring his timely and successful return to work at sea.

Congratulations MP Safety Management, CSR Shipping and Brian Neilson.

Sadly, Mr David Wilks has recently passed away. His contribution to this program, as well as his work for CSR Shipping and in the maritime industry generally, is widely acknowledged. The Seacare Authority wishes to pay tribute to David’s work at CSR Shipping over many years.