



It has been an exciting quarter for the Seacare Authority; in particular, the success of the inaugural OHS Awards and OHS Conference highlighted the commitment and continuing improvement in OHS by the maritime industry. Another significant event was the briefing to the WA maritime industry sector on the proposed regulation prohibiting asbestos, and the outcomes of the OHS Conference. Following the positive response we received in WA similar briefings are being organised for Victoria and New South Wales in August and November respectively. Finally we welcome to the Seacare Authority Mr John Wydell from the Australian Maritime Officers Union as deputy member to Mr Martin Byrne.

Rod Pickette  
Manager, Seacare

## OHS Awards

More than 100 members of the Australian maritime industry gathered at the Melbourne Aquarium on 3 April 2003 for the inaugural Seacare Authority Sea Safe-Work Awards. The awards were presented by the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, the Hon. Tony Abbott MP. All maritime industry employers have been sent a video of the awards event.

Congratulations to the following winners:

**Best Solution to a Major OHS Risk:** Teekay Shipping (Australia) Team Gemini, for their Lockout System.

**Best OHS Training Program:** P&O Maritime Services for Roger's Story.

**Offshore Employer OHS Achievement Award:** Mermaid Marine Australia

**Large Employer OHS Achievement Award:** Teekay Shipping (Australia), Team Gemini.

**Small Employer OHS Achievement Award:** Mermaid Marine Australia.

Thank you to everyone who supported the awards, in particular, thanks to the following sponsors: Comcare; National Occupational Health and Safety Commission; P&O Maritime Services; Australian Shipowners Association; Intercontinental Ship Management; and the Australian Maritime College.

## Key Outcomes of the Seacare Authority Meeting 46 – 21 May 2003

The Authority:

- agreed to advise the Minister that the levy rate for the Seafarers Safety Net Fund should be maintained for the Jul - Sept 03 quarter at \$53 per berth with a further review at its next meeting in August 2003;
- agreed to run the next Sea Safe-Work Awards in the second half of 2004; and
- agreed to seek approval for the introduction of a Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos to complement the prohibition on the use of asbestos, due to commence on 1 January 2004.

## OHS Conference

Sixty members of the maritime industry attended the OHS Conference held on the afternoon preceding the Sea Safe-Work Awards. Many of the issues identified by the panel session and round table discussions have been recommended for consideration by the Authority, such as:

- Seacare Authority facilitation of an OHS practitioners network;
- identification and publication of national and international OHS performance benchmarks;
- inclusion of OHS practical guidance on the Seacare website;
- facilitation and development of industry wide OHS training materials;
- assist the industry address major hazards;
- review conformance with the Authority's OHS Employer Statement of Commitment; and
- establish direct communication with shipboard OHS representatives and committees.

## Asbestos Prohibition Regulation

A regulation prohibiting chrysotile and other forms of asbestos is currently being drafted. This regulation will prohibit the use of chrysotile and other forms of asbestos from 31 Dec 2003. It will not cover the removal and disposal of asbestos or chrysotile asbestos that is *in situ* at the time the prohibition takes effect.

More information on the prohibition will be circulated.

## Seafarers Safety Net Fund - new levy collection procedures from 1 July 2003

Employers should note that from 1 July 2003 levy should be paid:

- (i) **by cheque** made out to the **Seafarers Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Authority** to be sent to AMICA; or
- (ii) **by direct credit** to **Comcare Official Administered Receipts Account - Seacare Authority**. The new account number is: **BSB 062987 Account No.10003681**.

## Transfer of Seacare Authority Support Function

Operational support for the Seacare Authority transferred from the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to Comcare on 11 June 2003. The Authority will continue to be autonomous.

Please note the Seacare Authority contact details below which have been phased in over the past 12 months.

## New Notices

Notice No.	Date of Effect	Subject
02/2003	22/5/03	Maximum Level of Benefits
03/2003	01/7/03	Indexation-Increase in Benefits

All Seacare notices are available from the Seacare website at

<https://www.seacare.gov.au/publications/notices/noticesInformation.htm>

## Seacare Authority statistics and performance reports 2003 - 2003

**Table 1: Claims data**

Claims data at end of quarter	2001-2002	Sep 02	Dec 02	Mar 03	YTD
Total claims reported to AMICA	164	41	36	42	119
Claims accepted	147	31	30	32	93
Claims accepted less property claims	146	30	30	32	92
Claims rejected	12	5	2	2	9
Claims pending	5	5	4	8	17
Claims accepted – on duty	133	27	4	29	60
Claims accepted – off duty	10	1	3	3	7
Claims accepted – other (travel, study)	4	2	3	0	5
Employee Numbers	3152	2900*	2589*	3260	2916
Hours Worked	6529685	1368228*	1367156*	1763333	5998289

Source: AMICA, Seacare Authority

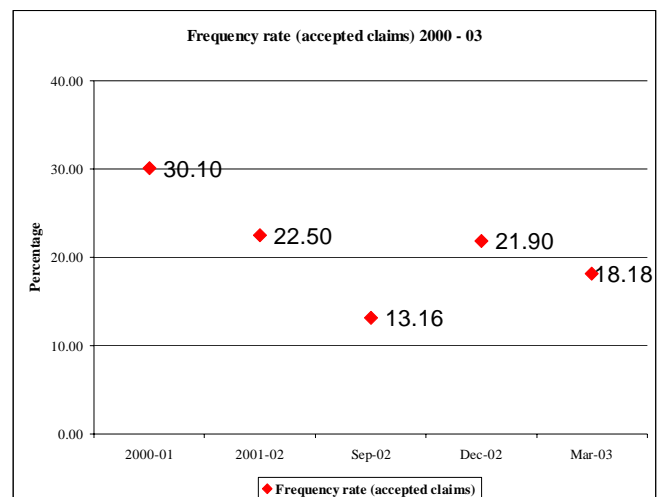
\* Data being reviewed

**Table 2: OHS Inspectorate activity**

	2001-02	Sep 02	Dec 02	Mar 03	YTD
Incidents reported to AMSA	56	25	19	15	59
Dangerous occurrences notified	5	13	2	3	18
Investigations of incidents	14	0	1	4	5
Improvement notices issued	3	0	0	0	0
Prohibition notices issued	2		1	1	2

Source: AMSA, Seacare Authority

**Chart 1: Injury Frequency rate**



Source: AMICA, Seacare Authority

Note: The hours worked is based on 12 hours (trading fleet) & 14 hours (offshore).

## Seacare Contacts

### Members:

Mr Geoff Gronow	Chairperson
Mr Noel Swails	Deputy Chairperson
Capt Warwick Norman	Employer member
Mr Mal Hearnden	Employer member
Mr Paddy Crumlin	Employee member
Mr Martin Byrne	Employee member
Mr Clive Davidson	Australian Maritime Safety Authority

### Deputy Members

Mr Bob Evans	Deputy to Mr Clive Davidson
Mr Mick Doleman	Deputy to Mr Paddy Crumlin
Mr Trevor Griffett	Deputy to Capt Warwick Norman
Mr John Flood	Deputy to Mr Mal Hearnden
Mr John Wydell	Deputy to Mr Martin Byrne

### Seacare Management Group:

Rod Pickette	Manager, Seacare
Leanne Yeates	Assistant Manager, Seacare

### Contact details:

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