



STEAMSHIP MUTUAL

To the Members

June 07

Dear Sirs,

TRAINING MATTERS 2

It has long been recognised that human error is a significant, if not the predominant cause of claims. The recent growth in world trade and the associated increase in shipping activity has given rise to increased potential for error as experienced officers and crew become in short supply, and vessels operate under constraints of time and in congested waterways. In these conditions, the effect of error can be dramatic and can give rise to substantial loss, damage and liabilities, not all of which may be covered by insurance. Because insurance cannot provide a complete response to these issues, avoiding the errors that result in claims is the preferable solution, and that brings training into focus. Training matters because it can substantially reduce the likelihood of accidents, liabilities and the exposure to uninsured loss.

The link between training and loss prevention has been recognised by the Club for many years, and was the reason for the Managers' decision in 1992 to establish the Ship Safety Trust (SST) to support ship safety and loss prevention initiatives. In the intervening fifteen years the vast majority of the projects funded by the SST have involved the production of high quality safety and training materials in association with Videotel Marine International, the leading producer of onboard training materials. There are now over fifty training programmes that the SST has produced with Videotel on a wide range of topics. Through the involvement of the SST, these materials are produced without cost to the Club. Members of the Club are also able to obtain these training programmes at a substantial discount to the normal price. Each of these programmes is produced under the supervision of a steering group on which the Managers are represented, and thereby able to contribute important claim related experience to the production. In this way, lessons learned from past claims can hopefully help to avoid future incidents.

The enclosed booklet and DVD, sent with the compliments of the Managers and the Ship Safety Trust, provides more detailed information about why training matters and the continued importance of a structured approach to onboard safety training.

Further information or additional copies of the enclosed package, if required, can be obtained from the Managers' London Representatives.

Yours faithfully,

THE STEAMSHIP MUTUAL UNDERWRITING
ASSOCIATION LIMITED

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